# THE INDEPENDENT

# **INSIDE TODAY**

# 19/FASHION

Autumn style in the High Street



# 17/CLUBBING Health hazards on the dance floor

THEEYE Willard White opens at the ENO

# TODAY'S NEWS

#### Holiday cancer threat

A rapidly spreading blood cancer may well be linked to sunbathing, researchers have revealed. The cancer, called non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, first appears as a lump in the neck, armpit or groin. Three in ten of sufferers don't survive, and a new "atlas" of the most dangerous cancers shows that cases have risen by 40 per cent in the past decade. This has baffled scientists but they have spotted that it is paralleled by the rise in skin cancers, and is commoner in sunny counties of Britain. There are other possible explanations, including pollution from car exhausts. but sunlight has become the main suspect.

Page 16

#### **Drivers on drugs**

More than 100,000 motorists may be driving under the influence of illegal drugs, according to a new survey. The police and the Government are to likely to try out roadside drug tests, after hearing that one-fifth of the people involved in the 465 road traffic deaths in the last II months had taken illegal drugs, mainly cannabis.

# Story of an ambush

A Lebanese double-agent betrayed the dozen Israeli soldiers who were killed earlier this month in an ambush by Hizbollah guerrillas. Robert Fisk, our Middle East Correspondent, has discovered that the agent, using a map drawn by Hizbollah commanders, led the Israelis into a grove of orange and lemon trees which had been booby-trapped with mines. There they were slaughtered.

The double-agent, in his mid-thirties, had been working for Israel since 1992 and his cousin was a prisoner in an Israeli jail. But it seems that Hizbollah has been steadily breaking the Israeli army of collaborators - now with deadly results.

On page 15 Fisk tells the inside story of the most carefully laid ambush in Lebanese guerrilla history.

# Mothers get jobs

•

Ministers are delighted by what they claim is the sensational success of their drive to find jobs for single mothers, In an exclusive interview, Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, told us that, under a demonstration project, 180 lone mothers out of 1,000 seen had been helped into work after only one interview. The high hit-rate matters because the scheme could become a model for Labour's planned reform of much more of the

# SEEN & HEARD

The Islamic government in the Malaysian state of Kelantan has banned total darkness in cinemas and ordered lighting to be kept on during films to discourage audience members from canoodling in the back row.

"If we can watch television at home with the lights on," said chief minister Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, "then why not in cinemas?"

# This bomb was meant to wreck the Irish peace talks. It will fail.



The clearing up operation beginning in Markethill yesterday after a bomb attack, probably by republican dissidents. Several people were treated for shock Photograph: David Rose

A 400lb bomb in Ulster, probably planted by an IRA splinter group, caused substantial damage in a small town.

But as David McKittrick, Ireland Correspondent, writes, it is unlikely to derail the delicate peace talks now getting under

The Northern Ireland peace process last night appeared to have absorbed the disruptive political shockwave generated by a major bomb attack on the

Co Armagh town of Markethill. The bombing, which caused extensive damage but no injuries on the town's market day. was viewed as a deliberate attempt by republican dissidents to wreck the talks process. The

IRA denied involvement. The explosion had an almost instantaneous political effect in that at the last moment the UIster Unionist party dropped a plan to enter the Stormont talks, where Sinn Fein are already ensconced.

Last night, however, the signs were that the party's entry into talks had been postponed rather than abandoned. Most of the participants predict that the party will go in this week, possibly as early as today, thus involving Unionists and republicans in the same process for the first time ever.

But the bombing served notice that paramilitary violence, which has almost disappeared in recent weeks, may continue to be a feature of the scene. It also created controversy as to whether the mainstream republican movement could have had a hand in the bomb.

The device went off in a van shortly before noon in the

largely Protestant town, causing substantial damage to the local RUC station as well as business premises and houses. Security forces later indicated it was a large device containing up to 400lb of explosives.

A half-hour telephone warning call to the BBC gave police time to clear the area and there were no injuries, though several people received treatment for shock. The warning call did not cite a codeword and did not mention which organisation had planted the bomb.

The RUC Chief Constable, Ronnie Flanagan, described it

N IR ELAND

IRA without (claiming) responsibility."

His comments reflect the belief, widespread in the Unionist community, that the attack must have involved the IRA either directly or indirectly. They suspect that the breakaway "Continuity army council", which may have been responsible, operates in effect under licence from the IRA.

But others, including security sources both north and south of the border, do not subscribe to the belief that the CAC operates under the IRA's covert

as an attack carried out with toblessing. The CAC has carried WHEN I THOUGHT IT WAS O.K. TO FLY AROUND AGRIN ...

loti where

tal disregard for the safety of people attending the market and of local schoolchildren.

Just before noon the Ulster Unionist Party had let it be known that some of its representatives would arrive at the talks between two and three o'clock. This plan was hurriedly changed, with party leader David Trimbie and others travelling instead to Markethill to survey the damage.

Surrounded by wreckage, the Ulster Unionist leader said the circumstances of the attack led him to conclude "that there is a high level of probability that this was the action of the IRA. This merely confirms the warning which we gave on Saturday that there would be a limited re-

out a number of bombing attacks in recent years: most have failed, though just over a year ago a large bomb at a Fermanagh hotel caused a similar scene of devastation.

Both security and republican sources insist the CAC is not some unacknowledged wing of the IRA but a completely separate organisation which regards Sinn Fein as being so soft as to be traitors to the purist republican cause. It is regarded : as occasionally dangerous but incapable of carrying on any sustained campaign of violence.

Within hours of the explosion Mr Trimble despatched a letter to the talks chairman, former US Senator George Mitchell, calling for the expul-

sumption of violence by the sion of Sinn Fein from the talks, citing both the bomb attack and recent comments by an IRA spokesman. Sinn Fein negotiator Gerry Kelly said yesterday that the bombing was "regrettable and very disappointing," but declined invitations to express condemnation

of the bombing. Inside the talks the British and Irish governments, anxious to make progress, are working on a procedural motion which would have the effect of "parking" the vexed issue of arms decommissioning and moving almost directly into substantive negotiations. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, said: "This attack may well have been a deliberate attempt to sabotage the talks process. We must not let it succeed." Senator Mitchell described it as "an effort to blow up not just a police station but also the talks process. It cannot be permitted to succeed."

But Peter Robinson MP, keeping up the Democratic Unionist party's sustained attack on the Ulster Unionists, declared: "The dreadful irony of Mr Trimble and his minions submissively creeping towards the door of the Stormont talks and diverting away, at least temporarily, because of this bombing will not be lost on the Unionist electorate." And ominously the Loyalist Volunteer Force, a dissident group who are in effect the equivalent of the CAC, warned: "The LVF will step up attacks in response to this bombing. No Unionist worth his salt would sit in these talks with Sinn Fein/IRA."



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# 2/BRIEFING

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#### 5/EDUCATION

Ministers want to step in and run Hackney schools because they believe the London borough is making a mess of the job. We talk to a mother who has seen her child suffer.

#### 7/DIETING DANGERS

United States authorities have triggered a global ban of two dieting drugs. David Usborne in New York looks at a country where obesity is rife.

#### 8/PAY PRESSURES

Tony Blair will take only a small proportion of a £41,000 rise, as pay pressures from teachers, nurses and doctors start to build.

#### 9/POLITICS

Harriet Harman tells The Independent in an interview how she plans to help single mothers come off state benefit and return to work.

#### 11/DESPATCHES

Men and women may serve together in the US military, but it does not mean that they have to get on. John Carlin draws some broader lessons for American society.

#### 13/REFORMING JAPAN

Japan's Elvis lookalike Prime Minister wanted to shake up the country's hidebound bureaucracy. But he has found himself as trapped by tradition as every other leader.

#### 15/ISRAEL

Robert Fisk discovers that Israel's military disaster in south Lebanon was caused by a double agent who lured soldiers into a Hizbollah trap.

#### 19/FASHION

Key looks this autumn that started on the catwalk and are now available at a High Street store near you.

#### 20/THEATRE

David Benedict interviews Richard Eyre as he takes his final bow as artistic director of the National Theatre.

#### 22-23/LEADERS & COMMENT

Hamish McRae canvasses ideas for what should go in the Millennium Dome, prompted by a recent debate hosted by The Independent.

#### 24-28/BUSINESS

Is there anything you can't do at a supermarket checkout? Now, at Tesco, you can bank there too.

#### 29-32/SPORT

Clive Woodward appointment as the new coach of the England Rugby Union team was confirmed yesterday. Chris Hewett profiles a maverick

## EYE ON WEDNESDAY

In our new tabloid arts and entertainments guide you will find Willard White opening at the English National Opera in The Flying Dutchman, reviews of Opera North's Aida, Primal Scream in the East End, and Waterloo Sunset, a book by Ray Davies of the Kinks. Tom Sutcliffe's TV review is on page 3, and TV listings on the back. Weather is on page 10.



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# Bodyguard who survived Diana crash is conscious and able to communicate

survivor of the car crash which killed Diana, Princess of Wales, has regained full consciousness and "can communicate", it was announced yesterday.

Mr Rees-Jones, 29, (above) a bodyguard employed by the al-Fayed family, suffered severe accident two weeks ago. French anxiously to question him on on 4 September. the sequence of events leading to the crash, which also killed his employer, Dodi Fayed, and the driver, Henri Paul.

A statement yesterday by the doctor treating him said that his condition was "much

Yeltsin's wife

takes on new

role as TV boss

Naina Yeltsin has always stuck

cosily to the stereotypical role that

best suits her husband's political

interests. Most Russians know her

only as a twinkle-eyed grand-

cuddles babies. But now she has

sian president's pet projects - a

government television channel

slaught of low-brow television

dubbed Hollywood movies, and

a presidential decree, Culture

Great tranches of air time that

from the West.

other who bakes cakes and

removed from a ventilator, was preserve his own recollections "perfectly conscious" and could as clearly as possible. communicate.

Mr Rees-Jones has yet regained his speech. His jaw and tongue Brittany on Saturday. His were badly damaged in the family had wanted to cremate accident but earlier reports that his remains but they have been facial and lung injuries and less his tongue was severed have ordered to bury him, for the serious head injuries in the been denied. The former time being in case further tests paratrooper underwent exten- are needed. investigators have been waiting sive surgery to rebuild his face

> Sources in the investigation told the French press this week that they did not expect to several weeks. The sources said that, until then, they would ask his family to limit discussion of

> > It has not escaped the notice

Mr Yeltsin has said he won't

– Phil Reeves, Mascay

of Mr Yeltsin's opponents that this

Moscow-based national channels

when it comes to anomiting the

from two to three.

Trevor Rees-Jones, the sole improved". He had been the accident with him to

The funeral of the driver of It remains unclear whether the car, Henri Paul, 41, will take place near Lorient in

• The BBC's coverage of the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, was preferred by viewers over that of ITV according to figures released yesterday. The interview Mr Rees-Jones for BBC received 19.29m viewers for its programme compared with ITV's 11.71m.

- John Lichfield, Paris

# Policewoman in job fight

A rookie policewoman who found herself in trouble for wearing bright pink lipstick with her uniform admitted yesterday that she had found it difficult to obey orders.

But American-born Tamara Berton 50 – who is claiming racial discrimination and unfair dismissal from the Metropolitan Police - said she eventually learnt to live with the discipline of being a police officer.

An industrial tribunal in Croydon was told that a report on her progress during her probationary period had concluded: "She appears at times to be a square peg in a round hole. Attempts to make her a round peg are seen as attacks. It is more like trying to interview a suspect.'

The hearing continues today.

# UPDATE

# Old people made homeless by fear

Domestic violence is a key cause of growing homelessness among the elderly, according to new research.

Nearly two-thirds of old people living on the streets or in night shelters have been ejected from their homes as a result of marital disputes. or family breakdown, and a third have been unable to keep up payments [ on their home after losing their job or retiring, a report published by the Policy Press says. The report, Older people and homelessness, a story of greed violence, conflict and ruin, by Derek Hawes, lecturer in housing at the University of Bristol, says that official figures fail to reflect the extent of the problem. "I was astounded by the number of cases in which vio : lence drives people out of their homes. Granny bashing and fights between partners appears to be rife." — Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

#### **PSYCHOLOGY**

#### Personality 'reflected in car colour'

Choice of car colour says more about someone's personality than the clothes they wear or the house they live in, according to a survey vesterday.

Research carried out by the RAC found that owners of pastel-colour cars were eight times more likely to suffer from depression than people with bright coloured cars, while drivers of white cars were distant and aloof.

The survey found owners of silver or metallic blue cars were the happiest drivers on the road, while owners of cars in the newer pastel colours of lilac and lime were twice as likely to be the victims of road rage. On average they were ill three more days per year than other motorists.

Psychologist Conrad King said: "Drivers may think that they are cocooned when they are behind the wheel of their car but in reality their choice of car colour sends a clear signal to other motorists. A poor choice in car colour for pastel car owners mimics a number of other poor life choices which, in turn can lead to more stress and depression. The colour of the car can be a symptom of an underlying personality problem ... Colour preferences can indicate a definite psycho-social pecking order on the roads, with the owners of black and red cars struggling for dominant position."

#### Scots urged to switch lifestyle

Scots need to improve their diet, cut out cigarette smoking and take more exercise if the nation is to ditch its rep-

utation - crudely caricatured by the television character Rab C Nesbitt (right) - as one of the unhealthiest in Europe, a report said yesterday. Heart disease and cancer remain the

country's major killers, each accounting for a quarter of all deaths, according to the annual report of chief medical officer for Scotland Sir David Carter. At a press conference in Edinburgh, Sir David hinted strongly that the Govern-

ment has resolved to tackle head-on the deprivation which results in the less affluent bearing a greater burden of physical and mental disease.

A Green Paper on public health is to be published later this year, and Sir David said one of the options being considered by Scottish Office civil servants was for it to concentrate on heart disease and cancer and how all public authorities could work together to alleviate the problem.

Sir David said: "The main message I have is - yes, some grounds for encouragement but no cause for complacency. It's difficult and unrealistic to see health in isolation. It has to be seen in the context of the life of the Scottish people and the environment in which they live. I do think I see major opportunities for the public to improve their own situation."

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

## Jobless join skills revolution

The Government's belief that higher skills mean lower unemployment is called into question today by the London School of Economics.

Writing in the Employment Policy Institute's Employment Audit journal, Peter Robinson of LSE's Centre for Economic Performance shows how people on the dole have become better qualified over the last 20 years. In 1979, some 59 per cent of the unemployed in Britain had no qualifications, while by 1996 that figure had dropped by more than half to around 29 per cent. In the same issue however it is reported that there is a strong link between high educational attainment and high levels of pay.

— Barrie Clement, Labour Edito

ZITS

by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

Mrs Yeltsin (right) is to co- TV is to replace St Petersburg's

chair the board of one of the Rus-national network, Channel 5.

which will promote Russian means that the federal govern-

culture in the face of an on- ment has increased its control over

was formerly strictly controlled be running again. But his media

have fallen to soap operas, firepower will still be very useful,

talk shows. Now, however, under Kremlin's next occupant.

7.30 FOR 8

by Chris Priestley



















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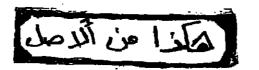


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# Sunbathing is twice as dangerous as we thought

Sunbathing may cause more than twice as many life-threatening cancers as previously suspected, scientists disclosed yesterday.

Our propensity to toast ourselves on the beach could be linked with the 40 per cent rise in the blood cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, as well as the increase in skin cancer.

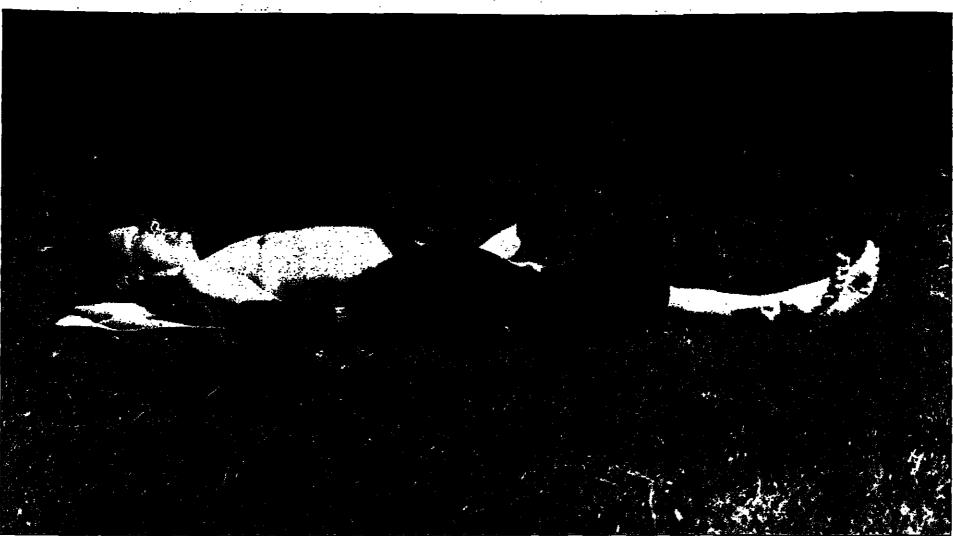
Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, reports.

ar colou

At the present rate of increase, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is set to become the third or fourth most common cancer by 2010. An atlas displaying the geographical distribution of leukaemias and other blood cancers, published yesterday, shows that cases have risen 40 per cent in the last decade.

The cause of the rise has baffled scientists but it has paralleled the increase in melanoma. There are 4,000 new cases of melanoma a year and 5,000 new cases of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Both diseases are commoner in the sunnier counties of Cornwall, Devon and Somerset than in the north. The same pattern is seen in Europe, America and Australia.

trend to take holidays in the sun per cent over the next 50 years. are believed to be behind the



Sunny side up: Blood and skin cancers are more common in warmer counties such as Devon, Cornwall and Somerset than in the North

Photograph: Alex Lentati

Professor Ray Cartwright, di- Hodgkin's lymphoma. People rise in both cancers. The effects rector of the Leukaemia Re- who get skin cancer also get sunbeds that exposure to them ple to cover up in the sun." of global warming and thinning search Fund centre for clinical more lymphomas. Farmers who takes away some of the immune of the ozone layer are expect- epidemiology at Leeds Uni- are out in the sun more get properties of the white blood other explanations were the nature of the infections to spleen and bone marrow and uled to increase the incidence of versity, said: "Increasing expo-more of both diseases. Darker cells. It is still a hypothesis but increasing pollution from cars, which they are exposed.

Increasing affluence and the cancers caused by smilight by 10 sure to sunlight is my favourite skinned people are protected if it is true it means there are which would be much harder to hypothesis for the rise in non- against them."

simple public health measures "We know from work on we can take, such as telling peo-

Professor Cartwright said

control, and changing use of antibiotics over the past 50 years which may have affected people's immunity and changed

The first sign of lymphoma, which is a cancer of the lymph glands, is a lump in the neck, armpit or groin. At a later stage

he said. the cancer affects the liver,

failure when it ceases to produce new blood cells. Treatment is by radiotherapy and chemotherapy and 70 per cent of patients survive five years.

The atlas and handbook giving guidance on the investigation of leukaemia "clusters", published by the Leukaemia Research Fund, provide the most comprehensive picture of all that is known about one of the most feared cancers. It focuses on two areas, the North and the South-west, and is based on 27,000 cases of the diseases from 1984-93.

Leukaemia is perceived to be a disease of childhood because one type, acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, peaks in the under-20s and there are fears that it may be linked with exposure to radiation from nuclear power stations or overhead electricity cables. In fact, there is little evidence of either link and leukaemia affects ten times more adults than children.

Dr David Grant, scientific director of the fund, said the failure to pimpoint the causes of leukaemia was "one of the most distressing unanswered questions" for patients and their families which the atlas would help tackle. The answer was likely to be a combination of genetic, environmental, lifestyle and occupational factors. "The pattern of the diseases over the country, the differences between the sexes - blood cancers are more common in men, especially after age 50 - and between age groups, could provide clues to their causes."

In some blood cancers, such as Hodgkin's disease, there was likely to be an infectious cause. timately causes bone marrow

Flashback to the Fortles: Children at a Saturday morning Hulton Getty

# Fleapits fight to survive in new age of the cinema

two in 1985 to 79, apparently heralding the death of traditional town-centre cinema. But industry experts say there is still a strong demand for the local as long as it moves away from its 'fleapit' image. Jojo Moyes reports.

Anyone over the age of 25 can remember a time their local "fleapit" - complete with stroppy ushers, stale popcorn and allimportant back row - formed the focus of a Saturday night

The news that ABC, one of the town-centre cinema's great-

British institution.

cision on local councils for allowing large, out-of-town cinemas to be built - but adsale would be reinvested in its own multiplex developments. The rise of the multiplex, de-

or more screens, now seems almost unstoppable. Since its arrival in 1985, massive invest-Warner Village, Virgin, UCI and the Australian entertainment giant Village Roadshow has swollen its numbers from 2 to 79 (with 706 screens).

record growth for 1997, with a further 30 multiplex openings, accounting for 293 new screens.

Sheffield, if all planned deest defenders, was selling more velopment goes ahead, will it wasn't as warm as being at plex cinemas. The council said

The number of multiplex than 20 locals appeared to boast 79 cinema screens at just cinemas has surged from sound a death-knell for a Great five sites - one screen for every 7,000 inhabitants.

> in cinema audiences, after a long period of decline. Latest figures from the British Film Inmitted that proceeds from the stitute show a 1995 figure of 114 million admissions from 54 million in 1984 (although still a long way from the 1945 figure of

> 1,595 million). According to John Wilkinson, chief executive of the Cinemas Exhibitors' Association, ment from organisations such as the popularity of multiplexes can be explained by a number

"There are problems at some traditional sites: public transport is so bad and people like to use their car; and, there is a general movement of people away from town centres... some people even stopped going to the 'local fleapit' because

#### UK SITES AND SCREENS

Year	Total sites	Total screens
1984	660	1,271
1985	663	1,251
1986	660	1,249
1987	6 <del>4</del> 8	1,215
1988	699	(,416
1989	719	1,559
1990	<i>7</i> 37	1,685
1991	<i>7</i> 24	1,789
1992	<i>7</i> 35	1,845
1993	723	1,890
1994	734	1.969
1995	743	2,019
Saurce: Screen Finance		•

home," he said. But their growth has not been welcomed by everyone. The CPRE, for example, issued a recent report highlighting out-of-town developments which could only be reached by car, including multi-

the deliberate disregard of guidelines was "creating a future of traffic jams and suburban sprawl which will cost the countryside dearly".

conducted by the brand developers Wolff Olins, the key.

younger cinema-goers find some multiplexes soulless and clinical places and actually

Mr Wilkinson stressed yesterday that there was plenty of room for the local town centre cinema to flourish - as long as it learnt to adapt to customers' requirements

He pointed to small independents which had flourished by providing the kind of comfort and entertainment that the customer wants. "It's about responding to local demand... There's definitely room for

One such example is the Screen group of six independent, town-centre cinemas. It recently opened the Screen At Winchester in a Grade II listed chapel, and plans to contin-And according to research ue its "slow and careful" expansion of one and two

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#### **British climber** dies on Mont Blanc

A British climber has died in an avalanche on the treacherous mountain Mont Blanc. French police disclosed yesterdayday, Alistair Crookes, 39, of Castle Bytham, Lincolnshire, was one of a five-person British team attempting an ascent of the so-called "cursed mountain" on Monday morning.

Three of his companions were slightly injured and were treated at nearby Chamonix hospital after being airlifted from the mountain by helicopter, while the fifth climber escaped unhurt, said a spokesman for Chamonix mountain police.

Mr Crookes is at least the third British climber to die on Mont Blane this summer. Mr Crookes's party came to grief at a height of about 10,500 feet on the Grand Mallet route up the 15,600 feet peak.

#### Couple's agony

The father of two children with a rare and tatal genetic disorder spoke last night of the "agonising" decision he and his wife have made not to let them suffer more treatment.

Rhys Daniels, six, was the first child in the world to have two bone marrow transplants in a bid to cure the Batten's Disease. His nine-year-old sister Charly also suffers from the metabolic disorder which causes blindness, dementia and immobility, and kills most children by the age of 10. Rhys is confined to a wheelchair and is totally blind. His sister can no longer communicate and is unaware of her surroundings.

Yesterday their father Barry, 39, told how he and his wife Carmen decided to let their children die in peace at home in Eppmg. Esex. He said: "We have decided that when Rhys and Charly next fall ill or get an infection we don't want them being rushed to hospital and having needles and tubes stuck in them. We want them here at home where we can soak them up in our love and let them die peacefully."

#### Farmer defeated

Ramblers were celebrating yesterday after a farmer who blocked rights of way with electric fencing and a manure heap was given a £4,000 court bill.

John Gooderham, 56, was fined £500 and ordered to pay £3,500 costs after being found guilty of two charges of obstructure rights of way on his farm near Stowmarket, Suffolk. Magistrates at Bury St Edmunds decided he had "flagrantly disregarded the rights of countryside users".

The Ramblers Association hailed the ruling as "significant".



Principal player: Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, being greeted by well-wishers in Wrexham, North Wales, yesterday

# Blair confident of a yes in Wales

Tony Blair made his third visit to Wales during the referendum campaign, saying he was confident the Principality will vote Yes tomorrow. The Prime Minister was in Wrexham and Deeside, seeking to bolster the Yes vote in a part of the Principality usually regarded as more 'devo-sceptic' than South Wales. Tony Heath reports.

If the voters show a fraction of the enthusiasm which greeted the Blairs in North Wales yesterday, then the year 2000 will see an elected body take office in Cardiff.

plause and cheers as he passed through crowds in Wrexham's shopping centre. Scores of "Vote Yes" posters were held aloft. "We love you Tony," was the cardboard by nine-year-old Dee Williams.

Her mother, Veronica, said proudly: "Everyone round here of course."

The Prime Minister started his walkabout in Hope Street and hopes are on the rise as a Thomas of Gresford was born result of his visit.

Steve Reeves, an electrician, has just turned 18 and is eligi-

Mr Blair greeted with ap- sembly and a vote for Wales. We are big enough to take responsibility for things that affect us here," he declared.

Gareth Thomas, one of a clutch of MPs on parade, oustmessage painted on a piece of ed the junior Welsh Office minister Rod Richards in Clwyd West on 1 May. A hardened campaigner, Mr Thomas commented: "It's a very tough fight is for an assembly - and Mr Blair in North Wales, where there's a tendency to look to England just

10 miles down the road." Liberal Democrat peer Lord and raised in Wrexham. As the prime ministerial convoy gathered he said: "I can't imagine any ble to vote for the first time. "It's other prime minister receiving

Ron Davies, who buzzes round Wales with undiminished energy, looked pleased. "As the campaign intensifies

it is clear that the case for a 'Yes' vote is getting through but there's still a lot to do and there can be no complacency." Earlier the party toured the

Toyota engine factory on Deeside and took a tea-break with shop-floor staff. The factory celebrated its

fifth birthday this month and is something of a model of the new Wales, where hi-tech industries and sleek production lines are on a roll.

going to be a vote for an as-the sort of reception Mr Blair is duced 360,000 engines to pow-

getting." The Welsh Secretary, er cars made at Burnaston, in Derbyshire, and in Tirrkey. Such developments are seen as a promise of the glowing future for a devolved Wales.

Mr Blair's visit came as polls showed the Weish likely to vote "Yes" - but with a significant number still to decide which way

A poll for HTV puts support for an assembly at 37 per cent, with 29 per cent against and 34

per cent undecided.

That is something of a turnaround from the 1979 St David's Day referendum, when devolution was rejected by 4-I. Even so, the cliché "Everything to play In the five years it has pro- for" hangs tantalisingly in the

# Athletes fail 75% more drugs tests

More British athletes than ever are failing steroid drug tests, the Sports Council of the United Kingdom said yesterday. It said there had been a 75 per cent increase in the number of failed tests for muscle-building anabolic drugs.

Michele Verroken, director of ethics and anti-doping at the Sports Council, told BBC Radio 4's Today programme that the number of steroid cases had increased over the last year from 15 to 27 cases of anabolic steroids, sithough the total number of drug findings had remained steady.

She said the findings showed that some people appeared to be misusing drugs even on the day of a competition. If athletes felt. they could take the drugs because of an insufficient testing programme, sport must look carefully at deterrents, she said.

"If we are reducing penalties, as appears to be the trend, then the sports federations may have to ask their athletes what really will stop this misuse among the few."

She said athletes appeared to want those who misused drugs to be thrown out of

The Sports Council wanted to ask the sports governing bodies about the problem. "It's going to be a difficult matter for some of them because they feel under great pres sure from abroad, where we have seen, certainly in Germany, civil legislation restricting the length of bans. But in this country we have seen the greatest commitment for drug-free sport, so why not?

Ms Verroken said that when all Britain's Olympic athletes were tested before the Atper cent negative.

#### **Burma arrest**

A young Briton was arrested in Burma after handcuffing himself to the gates of a high school in the capital Rangoon, and shouting democracy slogans.

James Mawdsley, 24, was cut free by police and taken in for questioning and troops were then brought in as he handed out leaflets, shouted slogans and spraypainted the Burmese word for "love and. kindness" on the school wall.

His one-man protest took place on the eve of the anniversary of the current military regime taking power on 18 September 1988 and crushing a pro-democracy

Although the demonstration caused little commotion as uniformed and plainclothes policemen kept passersby on the other side of the street, it was unprecedented in Burma, where the authorities fice was holding urgent talks with the Burmese authorities last night.

Little public dissent has been seen in the streets of Rangoon since last December, when thousands of students demanding greater civil liberties took to the streets. University classes have been suspended since then. Aung San Suu Kyi, winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, has not spoken in public since a government-controlled mob attacked her car last November and is largely confined to her house.

Burma has been ruled by the military

- Kate Watson-Smyth

# Rail companies fined £250,000 for failing to answer 750,000 telephone calls in a month

£250,000 for failing to answer 15 per cent of calls from passengers in tour weeks using the telephone. inquity service, the rail regulator

and vesterday. As revealed exclusively in The Independent, nearly 750,000 calls went unanswered in the month un of the Association of Train Oper-

Train companies are to be fined regulator. This low level of re-service, blamed heavier-than-ex-every four weeks. The number of sued automatically once British a 90 per cent target early this year. sponse immediately triggered the penalty payments.

Mr Swift instigated the investigation after the service failed to answer 90 per cent of calls to the

National Rail Inquiry Service. Ivor Warburton, the chairman der scruting by John Switt, the rail atting Companies, which runs the

bank holiday, and said the target

had been met, but one week late. "We are one week late achievthis year, to answer 90 per cent of

to have a new information system."

pected demand before the August staff answering the calls had in- Telecom, which had been moni-

Mr Swift said found it "deeply disturbing" that people were geting the target we set out in March ting inaccurate information to the extent it was being reported. all calls, to answer them faster, and He added that he would be taking countered the engaged tone, He said the service cost £3mil operators. The fines would be is- operators had promised to reach

creased from about 1,100 to 1,700. toring the calls' success rate, had confirmed the performance in the

fourth week. Mr Swift said that callers who were not answered, or who en- say that they are only one week late. that issue up with the rail counted as failed calls. He said the

"They said they would be there in June, then July, then in August. In the end I said, 'Enough is enough and we have to issue the final order'. When I hear Mr Warburton I cannot agree with him."

# Government to advertise for UK's human rights judge in Europe

The Government is to break with time-honoured tradition by advertising for candidates to fill a senior judicial position, as the UK's judge on the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Adverts will appear in a national broadsheet and the legal

press this week in a bid to widen the field of possible contenders for the post in the new, full-time, single human rights court, which will replace the part-time European Commis-European Court of Human

sion for Human Rights and Rights next year.

through the situations vacant columns. The Foreign Office said the move was in line with the Government's policy of "encouraging openness in government business".

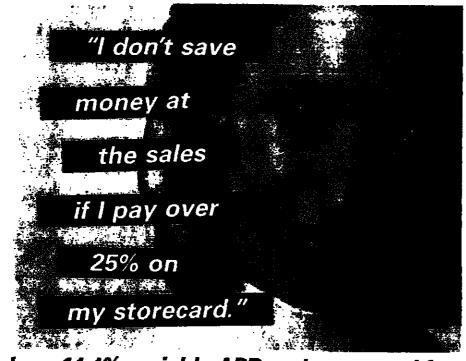
Any form of advertising for bourg machinery mean that

It is the first time that any se-high judicial office is a major nior judge has been sought departure from the current ultra-secretive method of recruitment, which relies on confidential "soundings" by the Lord Chancellor among exist-

ing judges and senior lawyers. But the reforms of the Stras-

while the judicial post will become full-time and more prestigious, the holder must be prepared to make Strasbourg his or her principal place of

residence. The Foreign Office must come up with a shortlist of



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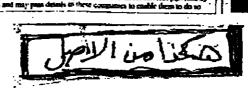
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'You don't

Parents who have were the tralearning suffer in the state of which affects schooling on his terday condutation of the authority for presiding

Theresa Bruce, which are a Burbace Primary School as her east London borough, talk to the heing hadly served and with the consures the Government medical She felt lack of resources

blance, but lack of additions was seen as the main process. She said: The situation is mess. A complete mess. 1. . quite helples, the demonstration send our link to other week

# Defusing the

Ministers are to spend £33m tackling the problem of truancy as part of the Government's campaign against social exclusion. Research has suggested that society as a whole would benefit from a reduction in truancy because of a link between school failure and cime. Judich jedd reports on the new proposals.

lic alienation of thousand was beable to the copy, The transfer licking time homb Day meet the secretary of Value Ver Blunkett hold a Lorenteen

More parents appea dramatic rise in the turns

as Indeing Complaint.

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# Schools hit squad prepares to move on Hackney



Burbage Primary School in Hoxton where parents are unhappy with the education their children are receiving

An inspectors' report on Hackney local education authority in London to be published tomorrow

will be highly critical. Ministers will take powers to take over failing education authorities in this autumn's Education Bili but they do not have them yet. What can they do? judith judd and Lucy Word examine the options.

A team of three or four experts appointed by the Government is expected to be drafted into Hackney to sort out the struggling north-east London authority.

Ministers were last night still wrestling with details of what powers the team, which would include officers from other local authorities, would education officer, present or retired, might head the group.

The Government wants to portray the team as a hit squad to prove it is showing "zero tolerance" of educational failure. It acknowledges, however, that any intervention would need to education service. be accepted by Hackney.

Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

The main precedent is that of Calderdale, the West Yorkshire authority responsible for the Ridings School, which was crincised in an inspection report last March. The then education minister, Gillian Shephard, announced plans to draft in a team of education experts, but no outside consultants were ever sent in and the Government has just given the authority the allclear to put its recovery plan

into action unaided. Hackney, however, is in greater difficulties than Calderdale, with a number of senior officer posts unfilled. The authority has no permanent director in charge of schools, but plans to advertise the post later this month and appoint a consultant in the meantime.

Stephen Byers, the school standards minister, sent inspectors from the Office for Standards in Education into Hackney in June. He said that the borough was suffering from "lack of direction and drift". The only statutory powers phase. have. They are hoping a chief which would enable the Government to take control of Hackney and remove powers from elected politicians relate councils said: "We can't stand to local authorities as a whole. These would enable a board of thority that to all intents and commissioners to start running the whole council, not just the

Experts doubt whether a re-

port on schools, however damning, would provide sufficient grounds for sending in commissioners. One said yesterday: "It is a procedure which would normally only be used if everyone's hand was found to be in the till."

If Hackney proves resistant to ministers' proposals. David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, will threaten a legal takeover once the Government has the necessary power,

possibly as early as next spring. Sources at the Department for Education and Employment said no final decision had been taken on a government response to the report but acknowledged: "We are not at this stage looking at taking over the

The authority yesterday insisted it had seen only a draft of the Ofsted report.

The initial inspection phase centred on the authority itself. Inspectors were scheduled to visit schools during a second

Graham Lane, education chair of the Local Government Association which represents idly by and see an education aupurposes does not exist. You might argue that some authorities are ineffective but this one is not even operating."

# 'You don't know where to turn'

learning suffer in the climate of disarray which affects schooling in Hackney yesterday condemned the local education authority for presiding over "a complete

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Cally Box 1

Theresa Bruce, who has two children at Burbage Primary School in Hoxton in the east London borough, felt that they were being badly served and welcomed any measures the Government might take to resolve the crisis.

She felt lack of resources was partly to blame, but lack of adequate management was seen as the main problem:

mess. A complete mess. As parents we teel

would be welcomed by everybody. All us have any training in social welfare. parents care about is making sure our kids get a good education."

Like many of the children at the school, her seven-year-old son Mark has special needs which she feels are not being adequately catered for at present.

She said: "Mark has special difficulty in learning and could really benefit from more one-to-one help, but the authority is just too starved of resources and the teachers do not have enough training to deal with

She said: "The situation at present is a school have some kind of special needs keep them up-to-date with what is going quite helpless. We don't want to have to ing to read and write or an emotional prob-cation is taken as seriously as they deserve." send our kids to other schools and so any- lem. The authority should be able to cater

Parents who have seen their children's thing that can be done to improve things for them but not enough of the teachers

"Schools do not even have enough staff to supervise the children's hunches and have to ask parents to come in and help."

Ms Bruce also claimed that there were problems with bullying, but said that when parents called on schools or the education authority to help, their pleas were largely

She said: "Sometimes you just don't know where to turn. A lot of the time parents turn to each other for the support they should be getting from the school. More "A high percentage of the children at the should be done to involve parents and to

# Defusing the truancy time-bomb

Ministers are to spend £23m tackling the problem of truancy as part of the

Government's campaign against social exclusion. Research has suggested that society as a whole would benefit from a reduction in truancy because of a link between school failure

and crime. Judith Judd reports on .

the new proposals.

The alienation of thousands of young people from education is a ticking time bomb", David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, said yesterday. Mr Blunkett told a London

conference that the Govern-school and improve provision programme to combat social ment was inviting bids for projects ranging from better school attendance registration to more year-olds back to learning. work experience for 14-year-

A recent Audit Commission report showed that 65 per cent of school-age offenders sentenced in court had also been excluded from school or were persistent trumts.

Nearly 1 million pupils have missed at least one half-day school session without permission or a note from their Mr Blunkett said at the con-

ference, organised by the National Union of Teachers and the Times Educational Supplement that the Government was offering £21m to:

 help local authorities and schools tackle truancy; reduce exclusions from

for excluded pupils,

• bring disaffected 14- to 16-A further £2m will be available to give pupils more work

Examples might include better ways of monitoring school attendance, more opportunity to spend time in local firms and colleges, and a chance for pupils at risk of exclusion to spend part of the week in a pupil referral

Exclusions have risen sharply over the last three years and around 13,000 pupils are believed to have been permanently excluded from school last

There are now 3.859 pupils . 2.107 in 1995.

Mr Blunkett said : "I believe education lies at the heart of our responsibility.

"Truanting from school affects not only pupils' chances of future success but also has an impact on the wider community, as does exclusion.

"Disaffection from school costs us dear. It costs the community in terms of the disruption which young people on the streets can create and there is a cost in terms of blighted prospects for the individual pupil who may fail to pick up

any qualifications," he added. "The cost to the taxpayer of dealing with the consequences of failure is enormous compared to the cost of investment in preventing exclusion and truancy."

The Government will issue in pupil referral units, up from new guidance to all schools on attendance, how to combat truancy and emphasising parents'

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# More parents appeal against school choice decisions

A dramatic rise in the number of parents halging complaints over the handling of schools admissions appeals has prompted local government watchdogs to call on ministers to review the appeals

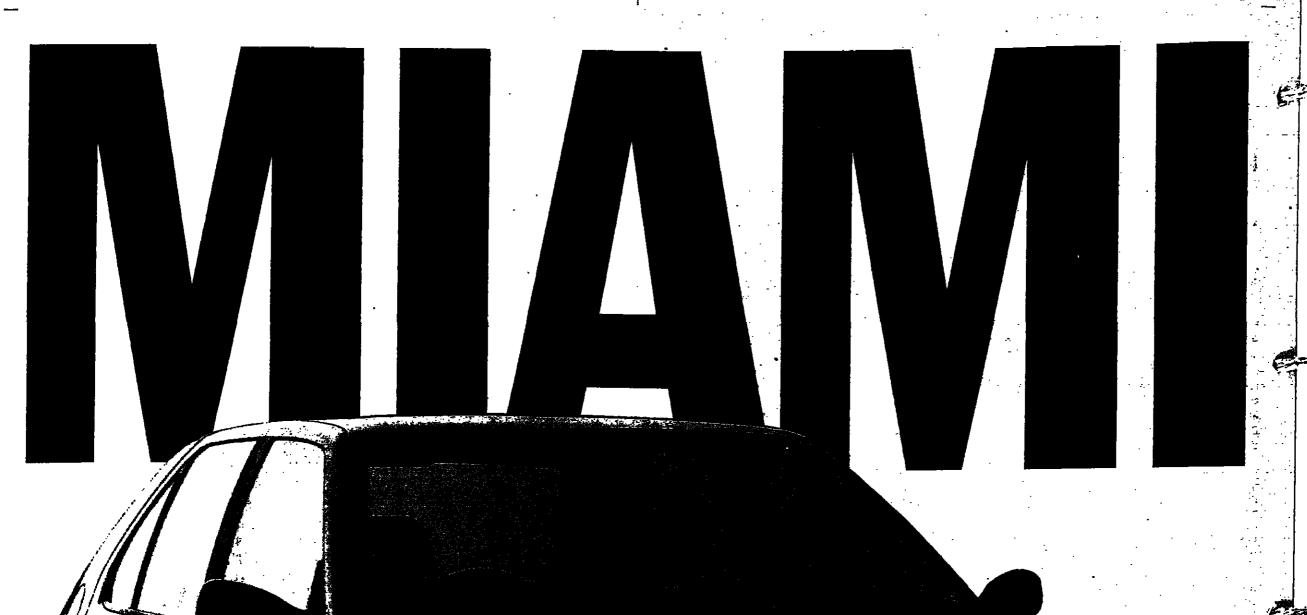
The English local government ombudsmen's annual report, published today, reveals a 50 per cent increase in com- the three ombudsmen in England plaints by parents in the North of England dissatisfied with the way their appeal had been dealt with.

Appeals committees often did not understand the two-stage procedure open to parents appealing against the refusal of a place at the school of their choice. stretching resources unacceptably.

revealed. Appeals committees considering

whether to overturn a school's decision to refuse a child a place must decide whether admitting the child would prejudice the education of other pupils by

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Drug C offered to weig

For millions of overweight Americans the so-caliest fer-phen drug cocks which is seemed like a silver butter for rid of their flab. Now, status, deep are being told that they are life-threatening, and Usbone reports on the sa disappointment and feat

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# Drug cocktail offered short-cut to weight loss

For millions of overweight Americans the so-called 'fen-phen' drug cocktail had seemed like a silver bullet to get rid of their flab. Now, suddenly, they are being told that the drugs are life-threatening. David Usbome reports on their disappointment and fear.

You could almost hear the rattle and thunk resonating around the neighbourhood. Up and down our cosy streets, men and women were throwing away bottles of pills. They were doing it with a sigh certainly, perhaps a grunt of anger.

This is the great diet pill chuck-out and it is happening in my well-heeled corner of suburban America, just as it surely is all across the land, in the poorest of black ghettoes, in Florida retirement communities,

If I listened more carefully I may hear the whir of treadmills starting up again.

The disappointment is tangible. In recent years the cocktail of drugs popularly known as fen-phen - one small white pull and a larger capsule - has offered a seemingly miraculous shortcut to weight loss and, for many, the rediscovery of self-respect that had got lost in the fleshy folds.

Hindsight will probably tell users that fen-phen was always too good to be true, even an affront against nature. In a socicty that is already pill-popping mad, here was a product that told our brain to tell our bodies that we were not hungry, even when we were.

Some will have discarded those bottles months ago when the first scare stories began to emerge. Many more, however, will have clung on to their prescriptions, willing to ride out the warnings of terrifying side-effects up to and including death through pulmonary hypertension.

There was, for example, the story reported in a recent issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, of an otherwise healthy 29-year-old Massachusetts women who developed hypertension 23 days after starting a course of the pills. Eight months later she was dead.

Two months ago there was a wave of may well come.

negative publicity after the death from a heart attack of the 53-year-old wife of the mayor of North Miami. She had been taking fen-phen for six months in an attempt to lose just 10lb.

Then the news startled to trickle out of cases of heart-valve defects in women on. the cocktail. On Monday the government instructed the withdrawal of the pills from sale. And so that, for now, is that.

"For a lot of people this is very upsetting," agrees Jane Aronne, the director of the Comprehensive Weight Control Center at the Cornell Medical Center in New York. "Some of our patients had lost 40 or 50 pounds with these drugs. Now they are going to feel like they are back to square one". But Ms Aronne, whose clinic only treats people with serious obesity, accepts the decision of the Food and Drug Administration, taken last Friday: "It is the safest thing to do", she says.

Not only is the move a giant blow for the pharmaceutical companies marketing the drugs, but also for the thousands of clinics that have sprung up to satisfy the demand for them, sometimes dubbed diet-pill mills or "feu-phen factories".

Richard Bowen, a doctor specialising in dieting, voices sympathy for his newly de-prived patients. "There are people who would do anything not to be fat. Look at what people do: They have their jaws wired shut. They have acupuncture in their ears. They have stomach surgery. I don't think the average person understands how terrible it is to be fat in our society".

Among those who stopped taking the pills some months ago is Susan Sorrentino of New York. She shed 187lb over four

"I feel glad that I was able to have lost the weight, and I feel sorry for people who are still trying," she commented. "It's sort of like having the rug pulled from under

While former fen-phen-aholics will begin the search for alternative therapy whether it's back to the treadmill or enduring what promises to be a long wait for a new, hopefully safer, generation of drugs - some are turning their minds to another all-American pastime: the filing of lawsuits. The class-action suits have already begun to drop into the court system, and more



Overload: At present rates of growth, every American will be obese by the year 2234

# How the craze for tablets took off

The craze for diet pills in the United States took off four years ago after publication of an influential paper suggesting that prescribing fenfluramine in combination with another appetite suppressant, the stimulant drug phentermine, increased its ef-

Nick Finer, a specialist in obesity at Luton and Dunstable Hospital, said: "Everyone jumped on the bandwagon. Commercial slimming shops started dishing out the pills as if they were a magic solution. The combination had a catchy name - 'fen-phen' - which helped."

Last year 18 million prescriptions were written in the US for the fen-phen combination alone (although it never caught on in the UK). Then odd side-effects as-

sociated with defects of the heart valves started to appear.

Some patients also suffered pulmonary hypertension - high blood pressure in their lungs - and one 29-year- old woman died of the condition after taking the fenphen combination for just 23 days.

Half-a-dozen patients who required heart surgery were found to have an odd plaque-like deposit around their heart valves which may have been caused by one

of the chemicals in the drugs.
The Food and Drug Administration issued a warning in July which triggered a flood of new reports of patients with similar heart problems, which led to this week's withdrawal of the drugs.

The puzzle is why it has taken so long

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for the danger to emerge. Fenfluramine was introduced in the 1960s and has been taken by millions of people. Dexfenfluramine. introduced in the UK in the 1980s, is half the molecule of fenfluramine, and was developed to retain the appetite-suppressant properties of the older drug but with fewer of its side-effects of dry mouth, dizziness and digestive problems. It only acquired a licence in the US last year.

Dr Finer said there were several possible reasons why the alleged problems with the drugs had not come to light earlier. They may be very rare, they may only affect certain patients, or they may only apply to the combination treatment. A fourth reason could be that no one noticed.

- Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor

# **US** beats world in fat league

America's fat-boy image is not the stuff of myth; New World inhabitants really are world-beaters in the obesity stakes. In the US and Canada a third of the adult white population is medically obese - several stone over the appropriate weight for their height. On present trends, everyone in the US will be obese by 2234.

Close behind, according to the World Health Organisation, are New Zealand and Australia, where the average adult has got heavier by a gram a day over the past decade. Among the rich nations of the West only the Japanese and Scandinavians have confined the problem of obesity to a tiny percentage of the population.

Outside these oases of healthy eating the rest of the developed world is catching up fast. In the UK only 6 per cent of men and 8 per cent of women were obese in 1980.

Now the figure is 13-15 per cent and climbing fastest among the young. Scottish teenagers are about 25 per cent fatter today than their peers in the early Eighties.

Traditional differences between the UK, France and Germany are being ironed out as national cuisine gives way to American-style fast food. In France doctors recently urged youngsters to drink more wine to counteract the rise in obesity related to the spread of pizzas, hamburgers and cola. All three countries have between 5 and 10 million obese adults.

Obesity is also rising in Latin America, the Caribbean and Asia, In some Polynesian islands the adult obesity rates is close to 80 per cent.

Fatness imposes an enormous health bill: behind the £30m spent directly in the UK each year on treating obesity lurk the hidden, bigger costs of treating strokes, arthritis, back trouble and some cancers. Western children are not only fatter but taller, and the two are linked. British children are already up to one-and-ahalf inches taller now than 25 years ago, while in Japan a new generation growing up on diets rich with fast foods is destined to be several inches taller than their grandparents.

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# 8/PAY PRESSURES

# PM forgoes his own rise to assuage public sector

Tony Blair yesterday announced that he would forgo a increase of £41,443 in his salary. Colin Brown, Political Correspondent, reports on the Prime Minister's attempts to defuse a growing row over the continuing squeeze on the pay of 1.3m public-sector

The Government faced an angry backlash from nurses, docfors and teachers yesterday as the Prime Minister took the lead in arging public sector pay restraint by foregoing an increase an his own salary.

In a U-turn, Downing Street amounced that the Prime Mina signal to the country to maintain the squeeze on pay.

Some Cabinet ministers were last night considering following Mr Blair's lead by not accepting their entitlement to a happens, it is probable the rest of the Cabinet will fall into line. One minister said the position as it stood was "untenable".

The squeeze on pay was reinforced by Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who wrote to the independent pay review bodies covering 1.3 million public-sector workers calling for "low" pay recommendations. His note said: "Pay costs will need to be contained within existing spending plans. There will be no access to the reserve to fund spending on pay in excess of those plans.

around the Government's in- that any increases will have to creases recommended by an inflation target of 2.5 per cent as be funded from efficiency savings, or by cuts in other services.

John Monks, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, called for a meeting with Mr Darling and said: "It is clear there cannot be a permasalary increase of £16,000. If that nent freeze in the public-sector pay bill without the quality of

public services being affected." The calls for pay restraint ere brushed aside by the British Medical Association, which tabled a demand for an increase of 10 per cent for GPs part of a five-year programme of increases to catch up with comparable groups, such as lawvers and accountants.

Nurses last week put in a demand for an inflation-busting pay rise. Rodney Bickerstaffe, eral secretary of Unison, said his union had no problem with the Prime Minister or

dependent pay-review body. We do expect, however, the same treatment for public-sec-

Nigel de Gruchy, general

secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers. condemned the pay freeze facing public-service workers. "We can't go on like this year after year after year ... I'm warning them that at some stage there will finally be an outburst of anger and that is of course something that nobody wants." he said on BBC radio.

William Hague, the Conservative leader, accused the Government of "hypocrisy" after Mr Biair urged the Cabinet to take the extra £16,000 raising their pay to £103,860. Mr Hague will follow Mr Blair in taking an inflation-linked rise as Leader of the Opposition.



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# **National picture** masks increases for big earners

A wide range of people with special qualifications and even workers without skills in areas of high employment are currently enjoying the

benefits of soaring wage inflation. Barrie Clement. Labour Editor, reports on a trend which official data has failed to pick

National figures showing pay settlements gently nudging upwards tell only part of the truth. Reports that wage increases are hovering around the relatively modest 3 to 4 per cent mark serve to draw attention away from the double-digit ris-

wide range of employees. Even the more sophisticaton average earnings - currently showing an upturn of 4.25 per cent - fails to detect the hidden wage inflation which has attended the end of the recession and the growing disparity be-

Most official figures monitor the remuneration of employees, but a burgeoning labour force of freelance, "portfolio" and subcontracted workers means that the data is of increasingly limited use. The Government stronger surge in pay than has so far been detected.

Broad analysis of wage deals shows pay edging up slightly ahead of the 3.3 per cent inflation rate, but certain professions with supervisory skills are enjoying something of a boom. Information technology spe-

cialists in the big cities are commonly receiving rises of 10 per cent in order to prevent them leaving. To attract new computer staff, salaries at organisations are often up by 15

Salary increases for those who are simply computer literate are running between 5-10 per cent nationally. For freelance analysts and programmers with the special skills needed to enable computers to cope with the the millennium, figures in the City are now paying some £69,000 a year - up 20 per cent on last year, according to Nick Robeson of recruiters Harvey Nash.

Building site managers are also benefiting from the upturn in construction and have been the beneficiaries of 10 per cent. rises or more. Bricklayers in London have seen hourly rates move up from £6.50 to £9.50.

The hidden increases have been detected by a section of the Bank of England, which prepares business intelligence for the bank's senior decision-makers. In an unreported section of its latest "summary of business conditions" the bank's officials reveal strong undercurrents of wage inflation.

The bank has spotted surges in the pay of graduate financial services staff, with some individuals hopping from job to job

in the city for 30 to 35 per cent

Lawyers with expertise in commercial disciplines are also one of the beneficiaries with rises of 20 per cent common. Gareth Quarry, chief executive of Quarry Dougall, specialist recruitment agency, pointed out that far fewer young people trained in commercial law during the recession and consequently there is now a scarcity.

Demand has been exacerbated by the arrival of American firms who are paying up to £65,000 a year for newly qualified entrants compared with around £30,000 on offer from domestic partnerships.

Legal recruitment specialists Taylor Root reports that while in 1996,18 per cent of legal departments increased in size during the previous year, this year 29 per cent of companies

In the service sector - especially in the leisure and hotel ined data from the Government dustry - management has been forced to award interim pay increases to ensure salary levels are keeping pace with those offered by rivals.

There are considerable regional variations. In areas of high unemployment in the Wales, Scotland and the Northeast, companies are still inundated with applications for all jobs. Here rates are staying at the low levels to which they descended during the recession.

In Cambridge and Crawley in southern England, where could well be faced with a far unemployment is negligible, even unskilled clerical workers have seen salaries increase by 10 per cent. Where companies establish "call centres" - essentially white-collar factories which deal with customers over and a broad sweep of people the telephone - pay rates for. clerical staff are driven up.

Alastair Hatchett of Incomes Data Services, argues that wage inflation could contimue to spiral in some occupations as the economy overheats and shortages worsen. Pay inses are also being pushed up by higher inflation, four successive rises in mortgage rates and the strict fiscal measures taken in the Budget. Ironically the kind of flexible labour favoured by the Government could undermine its strict policy on inflation. It is more difficult for the Treasury to keep a handle on pay in a system where the old certainties of annual wage increases are supplanted by performance-related pay and remuneration dictated by labour's supply and demand.

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A new project to help single mothers into work is showing sensational early results. The scheme could become the model for a 'New Welfare', giving the underclass an escape from a life on benefit. says Harriet Harman, Secretary of Scate for Social Security, in an exclusive interview with Anthony Bevins, Pour

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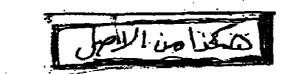
HOW 'NEW WITE 22

Mandelson a

Co-ordinated policy is essential to successful government, Peter Mandelson, minister without portfolio, argued Yesterday, Olympian Warrage Meaninger Consideration says his speech may become a benchmark for how the Blair

administration uses At the beam of Peter  $M_{\rm Big}$ on's approach to the treatment इ बारको ल्याचा नामना





# Harman spells out her mission: a hand-up, not a hand-out

A new project to help single mothers into work is showing sensational early results. The scheme could become the model for a 'New Welfare', giving the underclass an escape from a life on benefit. says Harriet Harman, Secretary of State for Social Security, in an exclusive interview with Anthony Bevins, Political Editor

Official advisers have been given the freedom to cut corners people who are receiving disand red tape as part of the Government's determination to find "what works" in getting single parents into jobs. In one case, an adviser drove a woman to her interview and looked after her child while it took place.

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The enthusiasm of single mothers, their social security advisers and Harriet Harman, the Secretary of State, is infectious. started in July, covers eight ar-"Now I've got a life," one single mother said after she had been helped to escape a sentence of life on benefit.

Under the "New Deal" demonstration project, which started in July, 180 lone mothers have so far been helped into work after just one interview. With 1,000 mothers seen so far, the hit-rate is beyond all expectations; without precedent.

Those who have not been given follow-up interviews, help workless households and child

Wage

£102.35

and guidance, and with many of the women who find work getting more than £50 extra each week - on top of all their benefits - the incentives are real.

There are now 1 million single parents looking after 2 million children, at a cost to the state of £10bn a year in benefits, which means that the advantages of the new deal project are not only measured in terms cash in hand for one of the most deprived groups in society.

One official source estimated that eventual savings could exceed £100m a year in benefits for the lone mothers alone. But Ms Harman wants to apply the principles of success to

ability benefit, too. These women are being liberated from the idea that they've got a government that is just dumping on them all the time; criticising them for 'jumping the housing queue', " Ms Harman told The Independent

The pilot project, which eas in England, Scotland and Wales, with an estimated 40,000 single mothers with children of school age. The scheme is to move on to a national basis in get of helping all 500,000 single mothers with an estimated 1 million children of school age.

Ms Harman said: "This is what government is for - not about pointing the finger at peo-ning and far from there being cial exclusion and tackling

HOW 'NEW WELFARE'HAS ALREADY HELPED

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Harriet Harman: When it comes to Christmas they're going to have money for presents. They have moved from just coping to actually getting a life'

the programme that delivers

The women and the advisers were so keen back in July, that people were jumping the gun; asking for interviews before they were invited, and giving interviews to women with children under five.

"I have told the advisers, 'Just do it. Don't worry about the red tape'," Ms Harman October next year - with a tar- said. "If the regulations are in the way, I'll change them. If they hit any obstacles from other departments, I'll get it sort-

"They hit the ground runple, but tackling poverty and so- any resistance, with women saying, Leave me alone, get the jackboot of the state off my

Type of job

Junior technician

Child-care

poverty. Right, then what's neck, most people have been incredibly welcoming. Some have been slightly apprehensive to start with, but then they've been converted.

"They are ahead of us. Of those turning up for interview, 14 per cent are women with children under five. Nobody has written to them and invited them in, but they're turning up anyway, and once they come in they get the programme."

That means that they are taken through the labyrinth of benefits, the jobs on offer, the hours and terms, and given a computerised calculation of the net increase in income they will have at the end of the

"This lot," said Ms Harman, "when it comes to Christmas, they're going to have money for presents. They have moved from just coping to actually getting a life." Everyone employer, the taxpayer - and the community at large.

"This is about real people, real lives," the minister said yesterday. "It is what government is for. It is very exciting; it's liberating people. This is part of the process of creating a new welfare state. And it works."

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# Mandelson argues for strong centre

Perm

Co-ordinated policy is essential to successful government, Peter Mandelson, minister without portfolio, argued yesterday. Christian Wolmar, Westminster Correspondent, says his speech may become a benchmark for how the Blair administration uses Whitehall.

At the heart of Peter Mandel-Government's policy and its presentation are coherent and

at a Birmingham University seminar in central London, Mr Mandelson, minister without portfolio, said: "The job of the centre of government is to gether more to deliver the make sure departments work together failure of government machinery means failing the warned, "the results have been people who elected us."

He stressed that there should also be strong ministerial departments and saw no contradiction between "having a strong centre and devolved respousibility". Mr Mandelson's very role has been criticised by some ministers because of the son's approach is the notion of control which he is thought to a strong central structure to exert over departmental initiaensure that the both the tives Indeed there was a strong still denigrate the presentation achievements and setting new warning to departments that of policy as a diversion from its they would not be allowed to substance", he took the oppo-

well-thought out and properly co-ordinated"

Mr Mandelson said: "Departments must also pull toquality of government this country needs." All too often", he ineffectual - because rooted in the lowest common policy denominator - or incomplete, because bogged down in bureaucratic turf wars. We are not going to let that happen."

In what will be seen as a defence of his role in co-ordinating presentation of the Government's policy, he argued that while "there are some who launch initiatives which "affect site view. "It is a question of ac-ments to outline what they Speaking to an audience of other departments' resources countability - we have a duty to

senior public-sector executives without ensuring the policy is explain." If a policy cannot be explained in a simple way, "it is more likely than not to contain fundamental flaws".

While under the Conservatives. Michael Heseltine, the deputy prime minister, had created a mechanism to co-ordinate the presentation of policy, it did not work because the policies themselves were wrong.

Mr Mandelson spoke of increased accountability. At least seven of the Bills in the current legislative programme would be published in draft form, to allow for comments which would improve them. There would, too, be an annual report outlining the Government's targets. The forthcoming spendmg review would force departintend to spend their money on.

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# 10/NEWS

# Pollution watchdog has bark worse than its bite



industry should face much harsher penalties for eco-crimes, says the Government's Environment Agency. The huge and powerful new arm of the state was looking back on its first year in existence yesterday. Nicholas Schoon, Environment Correspondent, reports

Lost year the biggest fine the Government's £500m-a-year Environment Agency won from a prosecution was £175,000, in the dock was Severn Trent Water, the secondlargest water utility, which killed 35,000 fish in a river in Mid-Wales - its 42nd pollution offence since privatisation in 1989.

It was "the equivalent of a £15 fine on omeone carning £30,000 a year". Ed Gallagher, the agency's chief executive, said yesterday. He told the organisation's first annual meeting that big companies can shrug off the little fines they receive for major pollution offences. "These fines are really small change to these companies - they send the wrong signal to the boardroom and the public." He got a sympathetic hearing from the environment minister. Michael Meacher, who attended the meeting of "stakeholders" in London. "The fines are too low and the average is very small," he said. Now he was talking to other min-

isters about ways of raising the penalties.

imum for a pollution offence of £6,000, while in the Crown Court there is no limit. The agency does not want these maxima changed; it just wishes magistrates and judges would use their discretion to push the general level of fines upwards. It also wants the Government to press ahead with plans for a tax on water pollution, announced rather tentatively in Chancellor Gordon Brown's first Budget. The more consented, legally authorised pollution a company produces the more it should pay, argued Mr Gallagher. And if it breaches its consents it should also have to pay extra, even if it was not taken to court and prosecuted. "The polluter pays principle is one of the few things everyone can agree on," he said.

Friends of the Earth protesters (above) demonstrated outside the meeting, claiming the agency had too cosy a relationship with industry and did not prosecute companies which breached their consents to pollute often enough.

But the pressure group welcomed the call for stiffer fines.

The agency has also decided that any member of staff, any board member and any chair person of one of its numerous advisory committees belonging to a secret society should declare it.

The move follows as yet unsubstantiated suggestions that Freemasons among its officers may be favouring companies it regulates in which senior managers are Masons. Some local councils already have

# Mother guilty of killing her handicapped infant

The mother of a severely handicapped baby girl was yesterday found guilty of killing her daughter by removing a vital breathing tube as she lay in a hospital cot. Julie Watts, 31, a psychiatric nurse, was cleared of murdering 14-month-old Abigail by a jury at Manchester Crown Court but was convicted of manslaughter

The court was told that Abigail needed round-the-clock care after being born with a rare combination of disabilities that left her unable to breathe or feed without the aid of tubes. She was deaf and blind and suffered brain damage, connected to a rare skull deformity.

Mr Justice Sachs remanded Watts on bail for nine days for reports before sentencing. He told her counsel, Richard Henriques QC: "I have no intention of sending your client into custody, at least not immediately." He said he would require reports on the convicted woman.

#### Black market raid on bees

Police fear millions of honey bees stolen from the Peak District National Park may be sold on the black market. Thieves took 27 hives worth £4,000, containing about 2.5 million bees and a large quantity of honey, at Beeley Moor, Derbyshire. A gamekeeper patrolling on Sunday discovered the theft.

Police are investigating possible links with an epidemic which has destroyed bee stocks in the south of England. The red grub parasite varroa, originating in India, is blamed for an Aids-type virus which reportedly wiped out 80 per cent of bees in Kent last year and seriously damaged the £12m-a-year honey industry.

Derbyshire Police believed the theft could be linked to this dramatic fall in bee numbers and was probably carried out by someone who knew the trade. Acting Inspector John Roughton said: "We are assuming that this person knew something about bees otherwise they would have to be an absolute idiot. We think they were stolen during the hours of darkness when someone in the know would realise that the bees would be inactive. They have got to have had a large vehicle, probably an open-top truck, to move this sort of equipment and may have been wearing some sort of protection."

#### Boy, 15, knifed at school

A 15-year-old boy was airlifted to hospital with a kitchen knife embedded in his back after apparently being attacked by a fellow-pupil at school, police said yesterday. The attack took place in a corridor at Christ The King Roman Catholic High School in Preston, Lancashire. Police have arrested a boy, also aged 15, who is being questioned in Preston, and are interviewing other pupils to determine what happened. They are not looking for any

The injured boy, who has not yet been named, was taken by helicopter to the Royal Preston Hospital, where doctors removed the knife before he was transferred by ambulance to Blackpool

Victoria Hospital. His mother was last night at his bedside. His life was not believed the in danger.

Detective Inspector in Ronald of Lincasine Police said the boy in custody was Asan and the victim was white, but he did not believe it was a racially motivated attack. "It seems this was a dispute between two 15-year-old boys. There is no indication it was racially motivated and no indication of bullying but it was very serious. The heatimester of Christ the King Robbin.
Catholic High School, Gus Van Canwelacat, said: Although every one is deeply shocked, staff and the pupils reacted magnificently. As the matter is subject to police inquiries I am marble to





## SFO wants to end trial by jury in complex financial cases

The Serious Fraud Office has failed in a number of high-profile prosecutions over the past 10 years. Now it seems to be blaming juries for those failures. Steve Boggan finds out why.

The head of the Serious Fraud Office and her predecessor have called for an end to the right to trial by jury in complicated financial trials. Rosalind Wright (above right) and George Staple (left) believe the over-simplification of trials to accommodate jurous' lack of specialised knowledge is resulting in prosecutions failing.

The calls met immediate resistance last night from Liberty, formerly the National Council for Civil Liberties, which said it it would be "seriously concerned" about any moves to end the right to trial by jury in any type of case.

Instead of 12 ordinary men and women, Ms Wright and Mr Staple would like to see trials heard by some form of panel of expects headed by a judge. Speaking at a symposium on economic crime at Jesus College, Cambridge, Ms Wright, director of the SFO, described the jury system as one of the "pit-

The particular surves to present a com-per commercial famility a jury of lay peo-

cial transactions and understand the documents, often the most convoluted and intricate sets of accounts," she said. "But this means having to prune a case to its bare essentials, losing, in the process, substantial elements of the total criminality alleged."

Once cases are split into a series of simple transactions "you run the risk of losing the total picture," she said. "You are also in danger of the 'Pandora factor', the ruling by [Mr Justice] Buckley to stop the second [Kevin] Maxwell trial in its tracks as 'unfair' on the accused ... If you don't split them, you have a huge unmanageable monster of a case."

In a separate interview with The Independent. Mr Staple, director of the SFO from April 1992 until April of this year, said only a few extremely complicated cases would be affected. "We are all aware of the civil liberties element of the argument but we are also anxious that the administration of justice should be allowed to flow smoothly," he said. "Fraud is becoming more complicated all the time. People are now talking about fraud in cyberspace over the Internet. Juries of ordinary people already have enormous difficulties understanding many of the technical terms."

Philip Leach, legal officer at Liberty, said the moves would be resisted. "We would have serious concerns about the removal of juries in these kinds of cases." He said juries were "a crucial element of our legal

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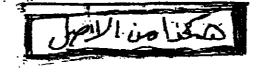
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On the face of it. Ryutaro Hashimoto is one of the most radical and dynamic Japanese prime ministers since the Second World War He has charisma, an ambitious programme for reform, and a talent for diplomacy. But Richard Llove Form, 111 Tokyo asks if his radical ambitions are any match for the corruption and vested interests of an

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# 11/REFORMING JAPAN

# Hashimoto takes on red tape and divided party

On the face of it, Ryutaro Hashimoto is one of the most radical and dynamic Japanese prime ministers since the Second World War. He has charlsma, an ambitious programme for reform, and a talent for diplomacy.

But Richard Lloyd Parry in Tokyo asks if his radical ambitions are any match for the corruption and vested interests of an entrenched political sýstem.

It doesn't take much to be labelled "good looking" in politics, but by the standards of previous Japanese prime ministers, Ryutaro Hashimoto is something of a heart throb. About the only thing which distinguished his predecessor, the unmemorable Tomiichi Murayama, was a pair of bushy eyebrows. An earlier leader, Kiichi Miyazawa, even earned the nickname "Yoder" for his eerie resemblance to the wrinkled extra-terrestrial in Return of the Jedi.

' in

But, with his ear-lobe deep sideburns, smooth complexion and brilliantined hair, 60-yearold Mr Hashimoto has been called the Elvis Presley of Japanese politics. After more than a year-and-a-half since be- younger reformers who prefer coming prime minister, and despite an alarmingly erratic economy and rising fears about the middle, attempting to crime and social stability, he is still belting out the hits.

Mr Hashimoto came to power in January last year, the fourth prime minister in two and a half years; aircady he is the longest serving premier for job: bureaucratic reform. For 50 a decade. Last week, a defection by an opposition MP restored to his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) majority control of the lower house of the Diet (parliament). A few days later, Mr. Hashimoto was. re-elected unopposed as LDP president. A newspaper poll gave him a personal approval rating of 53 per cent, up 10 per cent in three months.

Mr Hashimoto's policy projects - to reform the financial system, streamline the hureaucracy, and peacefully assert Japanese leadership in Asia are the most ambitious since the 1950s, and he is being tentatively spoken of as a potentially great prime minister, a confident, modern leader of a country in the midst of radical change. But events of the last week suggest an alternative view: that he is little more than a political pretty boy, a useful front man for a political system which is still a very long way from significant change.

Mr Hashimoto's most clear cut successes have been abroad - he is the first prime minister since Yasuhiro Nakasone in the 1980s who genuinely seems to relish distoracy. Relations with Japans most important ally, the United States, have flourished: the two sides have

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ironed out long running oppo-sition to US bases in Okinawa which flared up after the rape of a schoolgirl by American Marines. His first major crisis - the storming by terrorists of the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima - ended near perfectly when the Peruvian armed forces freed the hostages with only one casualty.

He negotiated choppy waters by expanding the area in which Japanese armed forces can operate in support of the Americans. The change upset China, arousing angry recollections of the Japanese invasion in the 1930s and latent fears of American encirclement. Mr Hashimoto responded deftly, travelling to the former Japanese colony of Manchuria and expressing "remorse" for the ag-

But the struggle which counts most is not being fought abroad, or even in the Diet, but in Mr Hashimoto's own party. One of the reasons Japanese prime ministers have changed so frequently is that party posts are traditionally shared out between the LDP's powerful factions - parties within a party, whose balanced support is essential to any long lasting

gression of his forebears.

One side of the LDP is made up of conservatives, who want to reunite with former allies who defected to the opposition. On the other side are to maintain a loose alliance with minority centrist parties. In please both sides, while pointing vaguely in the direction of reform, is Mr Hashimoto.

The stresses of this position are taking their toll on his toughest and most important years Japan has been ruled by massive government ministries which wield more power than any prime minister has ever had. In an era of globalised, competitive economies, they are seen as an anachronistic drag. Mr

Hashimoto has promised to deal with the situation. The problem is that the power of his party is based on a complex web of relations between bureaucrats and politicians, built up over decades. Many conservatives do not want reform, and the plans so far drafted for the reorganisation of the ministries are disappointing.

The prime minister's attempts to balance new reformers with old conservatives have produced embarrassing anomalies. Last week he celebrated his re-election as party leader with a reshuffle in which he elevated one Koko Sato, a conservative best known for the two year suspended prison sentence for bribery which he received in the 1970s. The job of Mr Sato, or the "Cabinet convict" as he is already known, is to oversee the job of bureaucratic reform, a poor omen for Mr Hashimoto's new era of clean government. Elvis lives, but only for the time being.



Battle dress: Like a samurai warrior of old feudal Japan, Ryutaro Hashimoto has enemies close to home

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# 12/WORLD NEWS

#### Asia's green intentions lost in the haze

Indonesia's President Subarto apologised yesterday for forest tires blanketing its neighbouring nations of Singapore and Malaysia in suffocating smoke. His apology came as he opened a meeting of environment ministers from the nine-member Association of South-East Asian Nations in Singapore. The lorest fires are a major talking point in the region and a source of widespread public concern.

"To the communities of neighbouring countries who have been disturbed by the tires in our territory, Indonesia otters its most sincere apologies." Mr Suharto said. He said Jakarta was doing its "levof host to prevent and overcome the on-going bush and forest thes raging in our country".

Some environmental specialists arene that Indonesia could do more about what is dubbed "haze" in the region. "The talk has been going on for too long," said Mark Harrison, business services manager at Singapore's Regional Institute

of Environmental Technology. "What we're dealing with is a photochemical smog ... Calling it a haze as we have done for so long is the typical softly, softly Asian approach. I think "stime to be more robust,"

Dixons

# Far right scores well in Norway's election

Norway's prime minister has said he will step down after lukewarm support in last Monday's election. In a country with so much oil wealth it doesn't know what to do with it, the doubling of the far-right party's vote is ringing alarm bells, but none of the parties scrambling to form a coalition will have anything to do with it.

After Norwegians snubbed their Labour government in national elections on Monday, smaller parties were scrambling yesterday to see what coalition - if any - could muster support in a deadlocked parlia-

Making good on his campaign undertaking, the Prime Minister, Thorhjoern Jagland, said that his minority Labour government would step down next month because voters failed to give him the mandate he demanded.

With 97.6 per cent of the vote counted, Labour was the leading party, but its 35.1 per cent was under Mr Jagland's declared minimum of 36.9 per cent - the same as Labour got in the last elections four years ago. The final votes are to be counted today. Labour will have 65 of the 165 seats in parliament.

"I assume the other parties that, during the campaign, said they wanted to form a new government will in fact keep their word," said Mr Jagland when announcing his government would step down after presenting a national budget draft on 13 October.

Apart from Labour's defeat, Norway's traditional political calm was shattered by the stunning success of the far-right Progress Party, which won 15.3 per cent of the vote and 25 seats in parliament - more than double the 6.3 per cent the party got in 1993.

The Progress Party, a neo-Thatcherite grouping led by charismatic former businessman Carl Hagen, gathered the protest votes of Norwegians who feel their massive oil wealth is being poured into the wrong



Congratulations: Kjell Magne Bondevik, head of a three-party centrist coalition, receiving a cake yesterday after he seemed set to become Norway's next prime minister

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pockets. The Labour government has launched a Petroleum Fund to mop up the billions of oil dollars flooding into the economy, but opinion polls showed Norwegians felt their health and welfare services and schools were suffering.

Even though it becomes the country's secondlargest party. Progress is not likely to be invited to join any government. Other parties consider its policies intolerable - especially those calling for tighter immigration and refugee policy.

The next prime minister looks set to be Kjell

Magne Bondevik, a former priest and ex-foreign minister who is the head of a three-party centrist coali-

tion that can garner 42 seats. He began the process of trying to put together a coalition government vesterday, though he has a breathing space until mid-October.

"We have confirmed what is most important, that there is a will among all three centrist parties to offer an alternative, and then it will be up to parliament," said Mr Bondevik, after meeting his potential coalition partners.

The political jockeying raises the possibility that none of the small parties will be able to muster enough support for a government and that Labour would return to power.

# Warning over EU rebates

France yesterday urged Germany to drop its campaign to secure a big reduction in its net contribution to the European Union budget, warning it could derail the re-ordering of Europe's finances essential for EU enlargement to go ahead. Speaking after talks with British officials in London, Pierre Moscovici, the French Minister for European Affairs, noted Britain had already ruled out any change in the rebate formula negotiated by Margaret Thatcher. "This mustn't become contagious," he said. It would be "a very bad start" for the negotiations if every country insisted on getting its money back.

At a weekend meeting in Luxembourg, German Finance Minister Theo Waigel served notice that the current system, under which Bonn claims to pay 60 per cent of net contributions to the £60bn EU budget, had to change. As it strives to get its budget deficit below the 3 per cent required to qualify for the single curreacy, Bonn is casting around for every possible saving.

#### Indonesian deaths prompt riot

Rioting mobs attacked and set fire to stores, houses and vehides belonging to ethnic Chinese in Ujung Pandang on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi yesterday after two Muslim sisters were hacked to death. Gangs beat a 23-year-old deranged eth-nic Chinese man to death. Police said the dead man had attacked the two schoolgirls with a knife as they walked home from Islamic religious class on Monday.

#### N Korean famine worsens

The German Red Cross yesterday called the famine in North Korea one of the worst the world has seen since the Second World War and said around 10,000 children were dying of starvation every month. German Red Cross spokeswoman Susanne Anger, who had just returned from North Korea, pleaded for more international food and medical aid.

# Congo thwarts UN

Laurent Kabila's Democratic Republic of Congo denied UN investigators permission yesterday to hunt for evidence of massacres of Rwandan Hutu refugees in the town of Mbandaka. Reuters

# Mir crew suffer another narrow escape in space

Already dented from one cos-mic collision, the Mir space station astronauts got another scare on Monday night when an American satellite whizzed by, forcing the crew into its escape capsule for 30 minutes until the danger passed. The United States military

satellite passed within 470 metres of Mir (right), its closest brush with an unrelated spacecraft during its 11 years in orbit, said Vera Medvedkova, spokeswoman at Russia's Mission Control, yesterday.

The speed of the US satellite and the reason it shifted into an orbit so close to Mir's were not immediately known.

"The crew was sitting in an escape capsule, in case [the American satellite] grazed the station," said Ms Medvedkova.

In Houston, US space officials gave a different account. saying an inoperative American science satellite passed within 1,200 metres of Mir. "It wasn't

Karadzic ban

lifted amid

security fear

The head of the OSCE mission

to Bosma said yesterday he had

overruled a decision by his of-

ficials to disqualify the main

Serb nationalist party from a '2

tion of election results and

would not significantly reduce

On Monday the OSCE's

Election Appeals Sub-Commission (EASC), its judicial

arm, moved to strike out the

SDS in Pale, saying the party

had flouted a ban on political

activity by indicted war crimi-

nals under the Dayton treaty.

sages from Mr Karadzic were

The commission said mes-

Mr Karadzic's influence.

cal poll becamed

the Serb Den (SDS) in the Pal anything major," said John Lawrence, a spokesman for the US space agency Nasa. "This happens every month."

Meanwhile a recently returned cosmonaut said in an interview published yesterday that Mir was just minutes away from being abandoned after

June's collision with a cargo tug. Alexander Lazutkin, who was the flight engineer when the crash occurred, said he was petrified when he saw the Progress

cargo craft drifting inexorably towards its collision with Mir. "As soon as it hit, the fear disappeared," he said. "We

had to succeed, to survive." The crew had 24 minutes to seal off the damaged Spektr module from the rest of the complex or abandon ship.

"[The station] shook violently," he said. "Just imagine seven tonnes hitting 130 tonnes at nearly three metres a second."



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read out and posters of him stuck up at SDS rallies.

The EASC's ruling said "the SDS must be sanctioned severely if the integrity of the election is to be maintained. For a person indicted for genocide and crimes against humanity to maintain a position or function in one of the leading national parties shocks the conscience".



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There's a Great Deal going on

Sarajevo, one of dozens contested in weekend municipal elections throughout Bosnia Mr Frowick said he had acted out of concern for the security of international supervisons in the Serb entity, believing that the mainly "symbolic" ban could hinder the implementa-

society without a decent universal old-age pension.

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now. None of them guarantee a fair pension in the future. injustice, walk with us on the 20th.

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# **America** broods over army women on parade

A US army survey found "ethics and moral values", that men and women soldiers view each other with increasing

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resentment and distrust. John Carlin argues that it raises questions that extend to the civilian world about the limits of what is feasible in the battle for gender equality.

There is a rule in the US army under which men below the rank of general are probibited from carrying umbrellas in uniform. But it does not extend to is Elaine Donnelly, president of women soldiers. While this raight seem on the face of it to ness, who argues that mixing represent a rare case of reverse discrimination, and as such a tri- a recipe for calamitous indisumph of sorts for women, it goes to the heart of a controversy raging right now about the cial fiction that men and role of men and women in the

A proposal put forward by a female colonel a year ago for ly, a member of a presidential the no-umbrella regulation to be lifted for men has been gathering dust in the Pentagon vaults. "To this day, every time it rains, women with umbrellas are harassed by men," said the author of the proposal, Colonel Vickie Longenecker. "It's like, 'You're special, you get to car-

ry an umbrella'. It's an irritant." Male soldiers feel much the same way about the preferential treatment their female

courses on gender relations, new videos teaching respect between men and women and the issuing of each soldier with "value cards" reminding them of their responsibilities.

Meanwhile, an official commission headed by a former senator has been established to reappraise the question the army has so far chosen not to address: whether men and women should train and fight together at all.

feminist position occupies the high ground. Few have dared to come out and challenge the conventional equal-opportunities orthodoxies. One who has the Centre for Military Readimen and women in the army is cipline on the field of battle.

"There's what I call this sowomen are interchangeable, that standards are the same. They're not," said Ms Donnelcommission that looked into the role of women in the military in 1992. "And the issue of sexuality, of human nature, is not going to go away, no matter how many sensitivity training sessions you have."

Decrying the tendency to accommodate "feminist zealots" at the expense of the practical realities of war, she said. The army is not there to advance women's rights; it is not there counterparts receive on matters to defend men's rights. It is of physical fitness, one of nu- there to defend the country."



Vice-Admiral Patricia A Tracey, the senior ranking woman officer in the US Navy

merous new findings that emerged from an internal army shrvey conducted over 10 illionths and based on interviews . th 35,000 soldiers.

by, released last week, nounted to a harsh indictment f the state of gender relations the theny 20 years after the integration of women in the ranks. Sexual coercion of female trainees by their superiors was widespread and sexual hurassment was campant. More insidious was the general finding that men and women soldiers view each other with wariness and distrust, sapping morale and raising questions about the army's battle readiness. According to one set of statistics, while half the men said they believed women in their units were treated with greater leniency and more favouritism, 80 per cent of the women disagreed.

ample, are especially disgruntled, complaining that for fear of junior female soldiers officers wielding the threat of a sexual harassment case they have gone soft in training, diluting the code of discipline on which an effective army depends.

The army brass, moving sharply to introduce corrective measures, has sought to appease male soldiers' resentment by imposing tougher fitness standards for women recruits. They will now be required to do more push-ups and sit-ups than before and run a two mile course faster than previously required.

The women soldiers' concerns are being addressed the way they might be in the civilian workplace. A "human relations action plan" has been drawn up which recommends a week of training for recruits on us back to umbrellas.

Ms Donnelly is not against women in a segregated army. She notes with satisfaction, indeed, that women officers have kept pace with men on pro-The conclusions of the sur- motions. But the bigger question to which she draws attention is whether the contemporary American zeal for gender equality in all things might selectively be tempered by greater recognition of the limits that biology incluctably

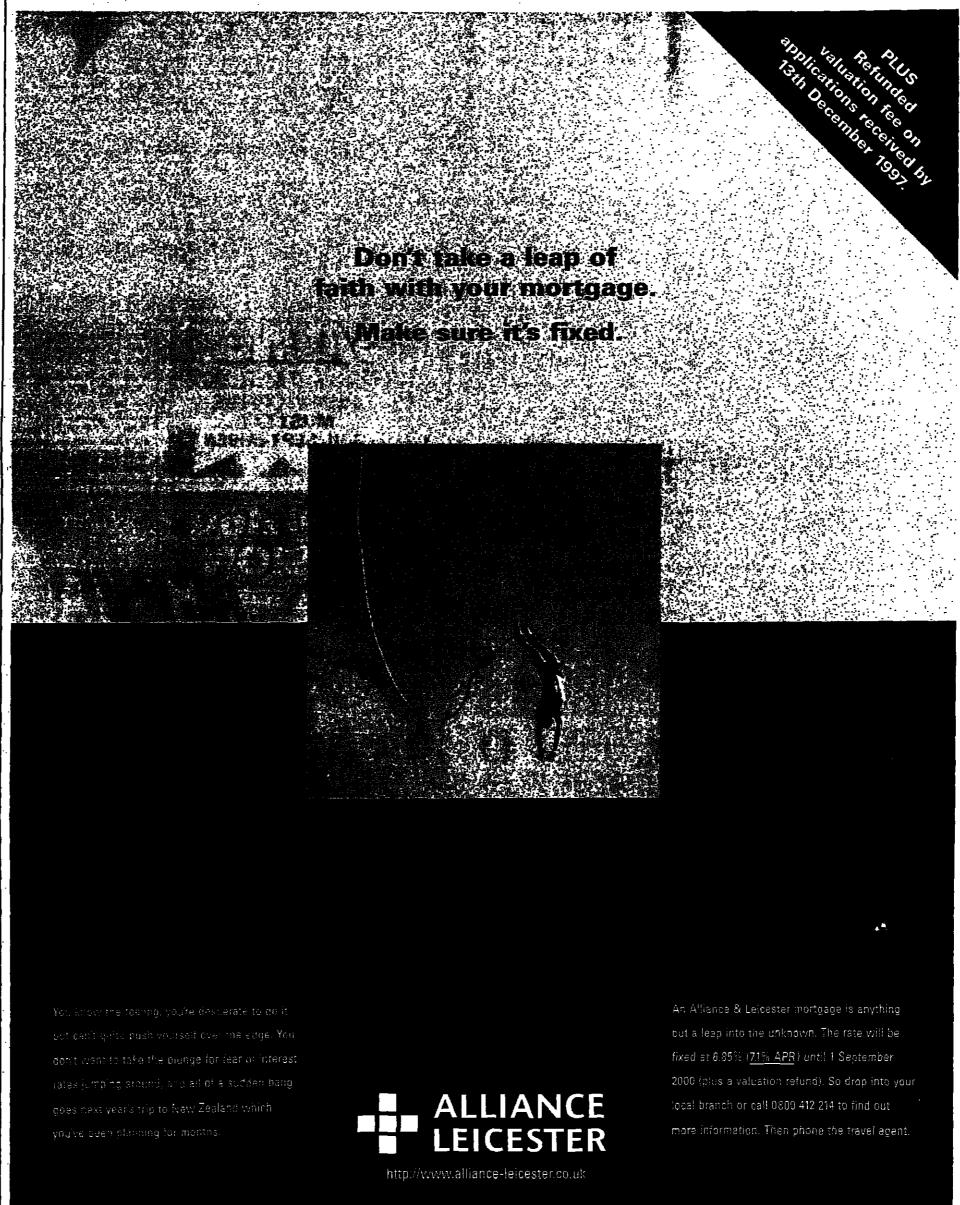
These are, indeed, mixed times for the cause of women in America. On the one hand, there was the news on Monday that Paula Jones' attorney was due to begin discussions with Bill Clinton's lawyers towards a possible settlement of her sexual harassment case against the president. Whatever you think of Ms Jones and Mr Clinton, whether you believe or not her story that he dropped his trousers in front of her in Male drill sergeants, for ex- an Arkansas hotel room six years ago, the fact that things have reached this pass marks a victory for women in the evolving power struggle between the sexes.

More open to debate were the consequences of the latest development in the Miss America pageant. Television ratings have been falling in recent years so for this year's event, held on Saturday in Atlantic City, contestants were encouraged to wear bildinis. Not all took up the offer. One who did, Miss Illinois, won.

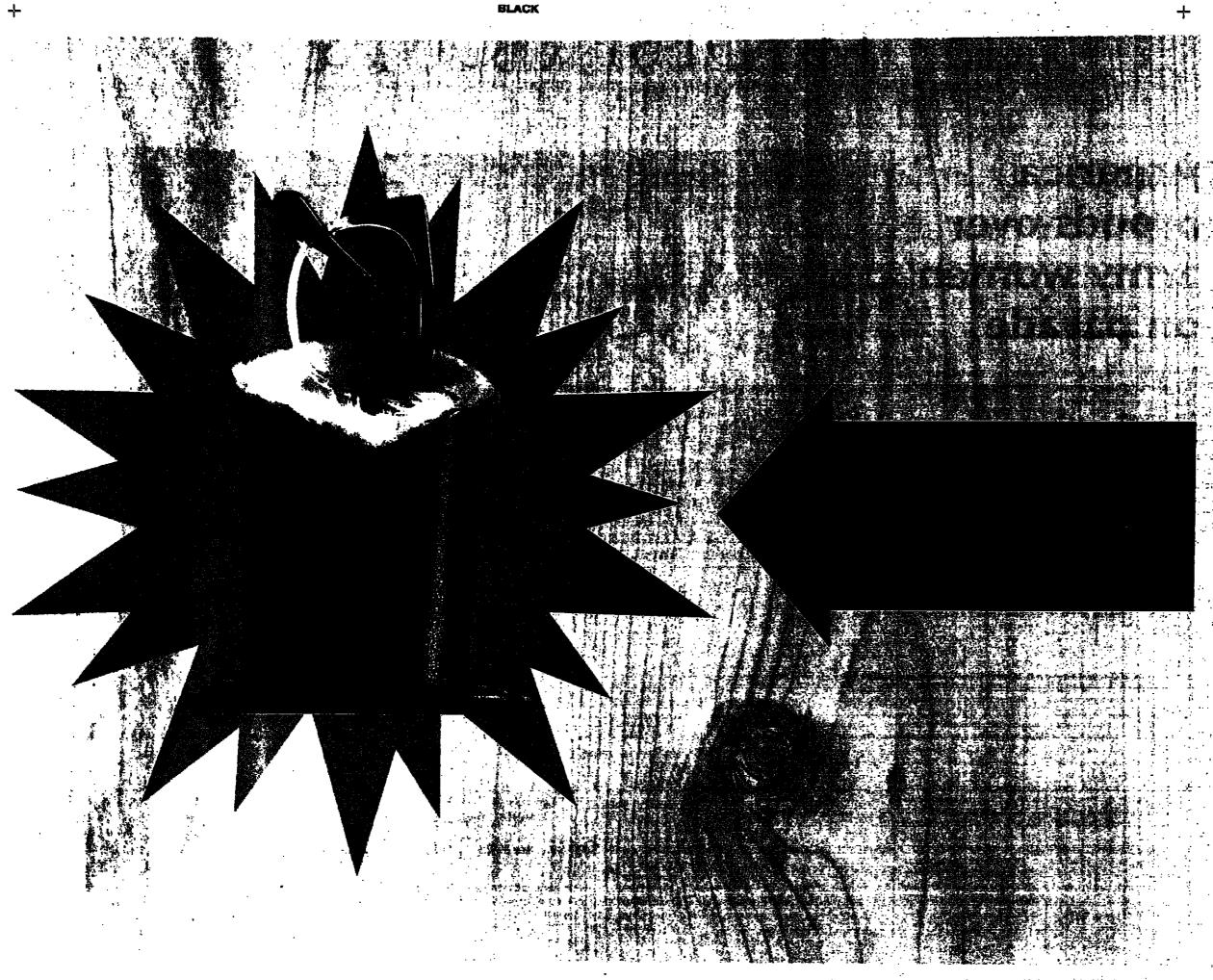
But the judges, eager to be all things to all persons, said she won not because of her looks but because she had spoken with Diana-like sensitivity on the Aids question and performed a lively rendition of the song, "Don't Rain on My Pa-tade". Which, of course, takes



For now, the traditional A scene from the film Golddiggers of 1937, illustrating an idealised role of women in the military



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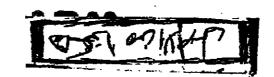
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# 15/ISRAEL AMBUSHED

THE INDEPENDENT WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 1997

# Double agent lured soldiers to death in Lebanon

The 12 Israeli soldiers supposedly élite commandos told - via their "turned" colkilled in an ambush in southern Lebanon this month were betrayed by a Lebanese double. agent. It was Israel's greatest military humiliation in Lebanon since 1985 and Hizbollah's most crushing intelligence operation ever. Even the Israeli map that led the lah have steadily been breaking soldiers to their deaths Israel's army of collaborators. was drawn by the pro-Investigations by The Inde-Iranian militia, as Robert Fisk writes from

The site of Israel's worst military disaster in Lebanon since 1985 has become a place of pilgrimage. Above the burned and broken stumps of evergreen trees, the rags of Israeli uniforms and the scorched leaves, there hangs a series of hanners, all declaring the killing of the 12 Israeli raiders as God's work.

Ansouriyeh

Posters praise the Lebanese army – who lit up the night sky with Verey lights when the Israelis arrived at 1.30 in the morning of 5 September - and the Shiite Muslim Amal militia - who came rather late on the scene - and the Hizbollah guerrillas who planned the ambush and President Assad of Syria who knew nothing about it until he read about in the pext day's papers. But a young woman who climbed from her car at the scene yesterday caught the Lebanese mood rather well. She pulled apart the blackened strands of barbed wire and stared for almost a minute at the mud and burned trees, hugging her arms to her hody. "Thanks be to God," she muttered.

But God had less to do with the ambush of Israel's

DENT

than a young Lebanese Muslim man whose cousin is a prisoner in one of Israel's jails and who - blackmailed and bribed - had for more than five years worked for the Israeli army's intelligence service inside southern Lebanon. Israeli ground raids into Lebanon are regularly planned and even stead of being in the village, he accompanied by Lebanese was hiding in the darkness spies. But in an undergroundwar that usually goes unreported in Lebanon, the Hizbol-

pendent leave no room for doubt that a double agent - in his mid-thirties and working for Israel since 1992 - deliberately led the Israeli raiders into a minefield. Even the map carried by the Israeli unit commander, containing details of his soldiers' five-mile trek on foot from the Mediterranean through the olive groves towards the village of Ansouriyeh at 1.30 in the morning - a map supposedly the work of Israel's faithful collaborator - was drawn by Hizbollah officers.

Israeli intelligence had been

laborator - that an important Hizbollah leader was staying in Ansouriyeh on the night of 4 September.

In fact, it was this same leader - the assassination target of the Israelis - who set up what can only be described as a classic guerrilla ambush. Inscarcely a mile from the grove of lemon and orange trees through which the Hizbollah map would lead the Israelis and in which the Hizbollah had already placed dozens of mines, some beneath the ground, others hanging from the branches of the fir trees lin-

ing the tiny lane to Ansouriyeb. Even before the six Israeli naval craft approached the coast with their cargo of dinghies and the 16-man raiding party, the Hizbollah had told local Lebanese army units to prepare for action and that their forthcoming operation was to be named "Abbas Ambush" after Abbas Moussawi, the Hizbollah chairman assassinated in an Israeli helicopter attack in 1992. Unaware that

they were walking into the most carefully laid ambush in Lebanese guerrilla history, the soldiers landed on the beach north of Saqsaqieh and set off towards Ansouriyeb, their radio operator in the lead, their commander in the middle, another soldier carrying explosives on his back. The map showed a path running parallel with the village laneway, curtained by tall confers which would protect the Israeli soldiers - and conceal the mines that were waiting for them. The first man to step on a mine was the soldier carrying explosives. He was torn to pieces with at least six of his colleagues.

When the Hizbollah opened fire, their battlefield was lit by the Lebanese army's Verey lights - an act that was to cost the army six dead in an Israeli revenge attack last week. What the Hizbollah did not know was that down the laneway would drive a 43-year old Palestinian -whose husband was in Saudi Arabia - and her very drunk, 35-year-old Lebanese lover. The five surviving Israelis, four of whom were already wounded, poured bullets towards the headlights, killing the woman instantly and hitting her lover six times. When Israeli rescue helicopters arrived 45 minutes later - summoned by the unwounded radio operator - an army doctor was killed when he leapt from one of the ma-

Only the Lebanese doubleagent was not there to see his handiwork. He had already been moved to a safe house along with his family, now under the Hizbollah's protection. His was the one uncredited name on the banners now hanging from the burned branches of the trees where the mines once hung. "The trees are talking to each other," one of these sinister messages reads. "The trees said: There are Israelis among us - kill



An Israeli Border policeman arrests a Palestinian yesterday, after he had a dispute with one of his new neighbours in Ras el-Amoud, east Jerusalem, where Jewish settlers occupied two houses

# Army prepares for guerrilla war

As Israeli settlers turn the hous- takeover in Ras al-Amoud Miami multi-millionaire who es they occupy in Ras al-Amoud into fortresses in the face of government pleas to evacuate, the Israeli army says it is training its anonymously, said the fighting in the occupied territories, conquered by Israel in 1967, would be worse than anything seen in Lebanon.

lice commissioner, said yesterday that he feared the settlers'

would "trigger riots and a renewal of the Palestinian uprising in Jerusalem". Meanwhile Elyakim Rubinstein, the attortroops for prolonged guerrilla ney-general, said the governwar. A senior officer, speaking ment, which is to decide what to do today, had the legal right to remove the settlers.

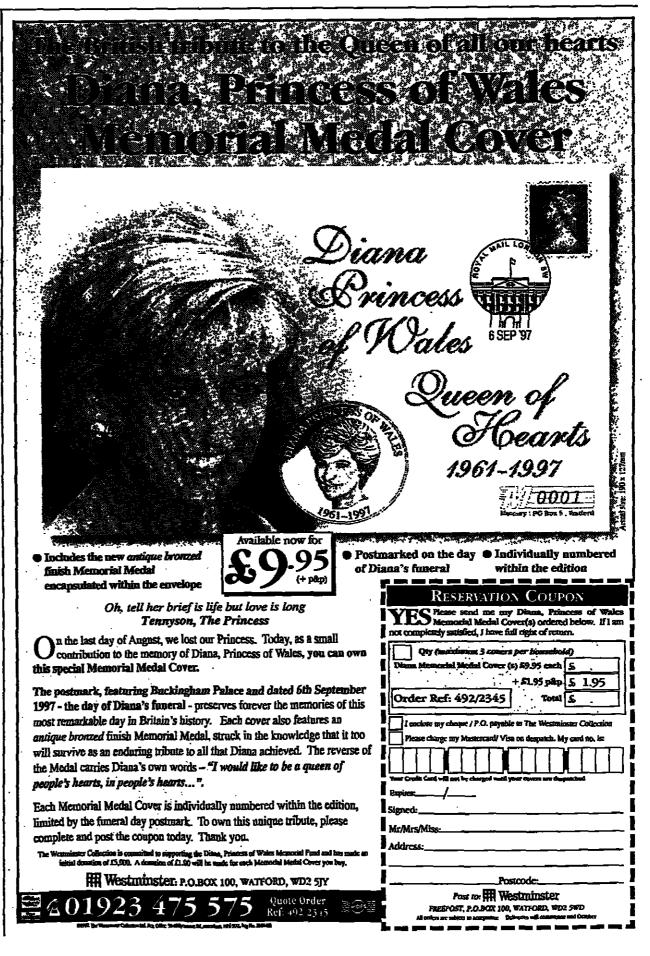
It is unclear if the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, is willing or able to do Assaf Hefetz, the Israeli po- so in the face of ministers who support the settlers.

purchased the properties, said: This is the first time in millennia that Jews come to the Mount of Olives not to be buried but to live there."

The impact on the life of the 11,000 Palestinians in Ras al-Amoud is significant because the 15 settlers are protected by some 60 paramilitary police who stop and search all Palestinian vehicles entering the that the Israeli government restreet where the settlers live.

has been limited, with only small demonstrations, although Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, is to meet with Arab foreign ministers and tour Europe. Potentially more effective is a United States demand that Israel remove the settlers, saving that their action was contrary to the demand of Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, when in Israel last week, frain from "unilateral actions".

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# 16/DEATH ON THE R

# Drive to keep drug takers out of cars

More and more motorists are believed to be taking drugs and driving. Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, looks at how the police and the Government are trying to find ways of stopping them causing mayhem on the roads.

Roadside drug tests for motorists suspected of taking illegal substances are to be piloted under plans being examined by the Department of Transport.

More than 100,000 motorists could be driving under the influence of drugs, according to the early findings of a three-year study. It confirmed findings that a quarter of those involved in 465 road-traffic deaths in Britain in the past 11 months had taken drugs. Twenty per cent were illicit substances, mainly cannabis, and 5 per cent were medical drugs.

A police-DoT working group is examining the issue of drug-taking and driving amid evidence that it is one of the fastest-growing motoring problems. National roadside testing is considered inevitable, although there are still problems with developing a workable system.

There are also proposals to prosecute all motorists found with traces of drugs, whatever the amount, in their bodies, which could result in someone who had smoked cannabis weeks before being jailed.

The latest results of the drug-driving testing were discussed at the Superintendents' Association conference in Bristol yesterday. It emerged that the DoT is considering setting up roadside drug tests in a number of police forces in about

nine months. Officers are expected to use body wipes which can detect individual drugs.

The wipes are attached to a short stick and rubbed against the suspect's forehead and neck. It changes colour if a drug is detected, although only one substance can be tested at a

Motorists taking part in trials would be volunteers and would escape arrest if positively tested unless their driving was considered impaired.

The police scientific branch is working on developing a roadside test and is expected to report in spring.

If a practical testing system is developed and the Government changes the law to allow roadside stops, the police believe a national scheme could be operating within three years.

Superintendent David Rowe, chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' working party looking on the issue, yesterday called for a zerotolerance rate for motorists found with drugs in their bodies. It was too difficult to set limits and to let off motorists found to have taken illegal substances was "tantamount to condoning drug taking".

If a zero limit was set, motorists who took substances such as cannabis, which can remain in the bloodstream for up to four months, could be prosecuted long after the drug remained potent.

This could lead to allegations that the police were deliberately targeting certain groups considered to be heavy drug-users.

Supt Rowe said the problem they had uncovered was the "tip of the iceberg": of 679,000 people who gave a negative breath test in 1996, up to 120,000 could have taken drugs if the recent survey reflected the national picture.

## **DANGER SUBSTANCES**

Incidence of drugs in road

No drugs detected 351 Cannabis

**Opiates** Methado LSD Tricyclic

Multiple drugs



Test case: A motorist using a breathalyser, Soon drivers could also be checked for a range of other substances

Photograph: John Lawrence

# Shock tactics aim to cut speeding

The Government's latest of the "Kill Your Speed" iniseries of shocking adverts are designed to make speeding as unacceptable as drinkdrinking. Randeep Ramesh, Transport

Correspondent, reports on how ministers want to end the killing sprees of speed.

Ministers launched their hardhitting "kili your speed" campaign yesterday aimed at reducing the death toll on the nation's roads caused by the thoughtless speeding of motorists.

The campaign includes TV adverts showing real-life video. footage of happily playing children who were later killed by speeding motorists. The Government is determined to reduce deaths caused by speeding, which last year was linked to more than 1,000 deaths. Baroness Hayman, minister for roads, told journalists that the campaign would have been pulled if it had caused further distress to Buckingham Palace or the Spencer family following the death of Diana. Princess of Wales.

The £3.7m campaign - part

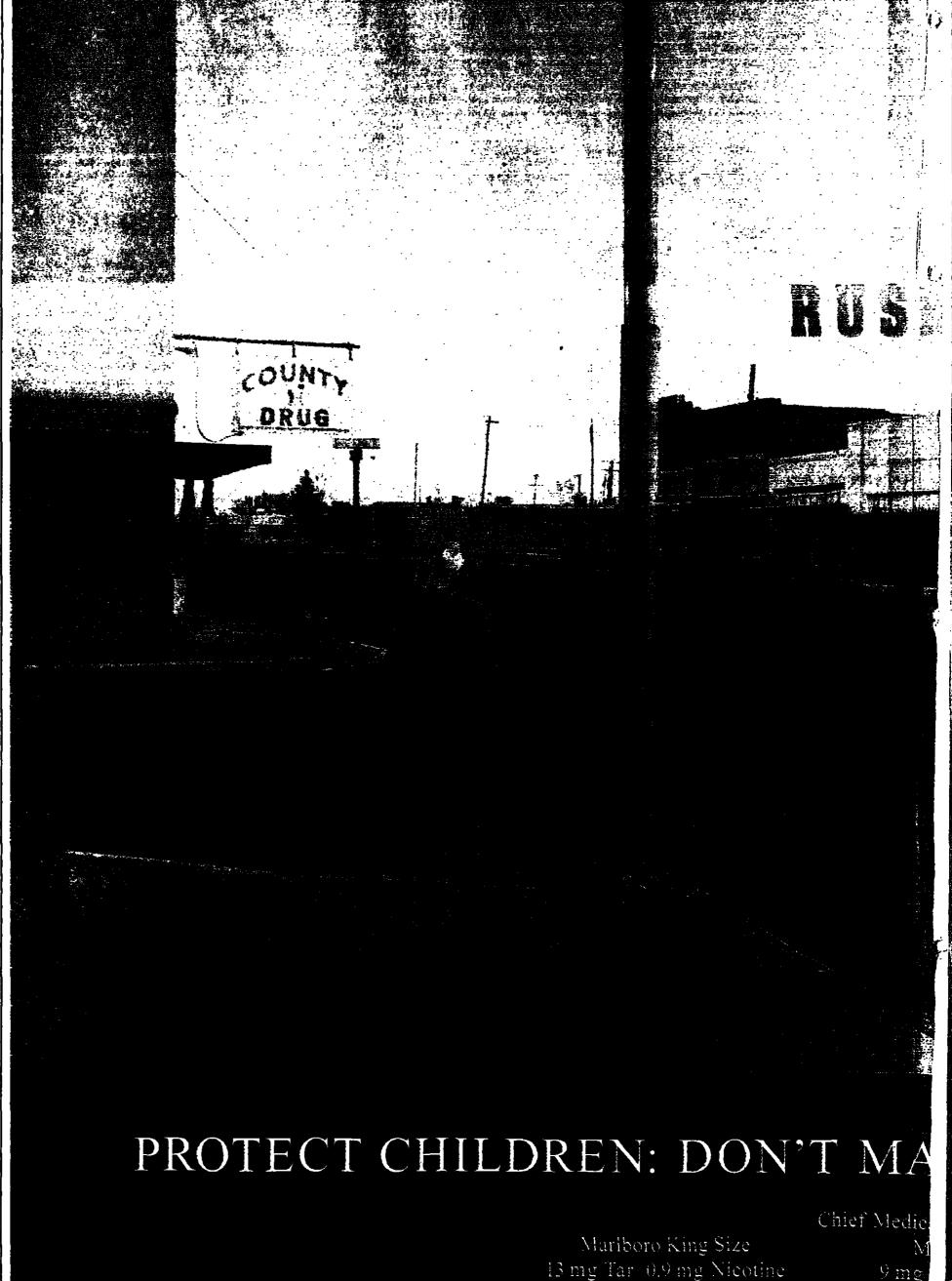
tiative - features four children who are seen in home videos. One is William Blacklock, 13, who was knocked down and killed by a 19-year-old speeding motorist on a zebra crossing near his home in Olney, Buckinghamshire, in 1994.

Baroness Hayman said the Government was committed to creating a climate in which speeding was as socially unacceptable as drink-driving.

The Government was considering a number of measures that would encourage motorists to slow down. Baroness Hayman said 20mph zones were proving "particularly effective" in reducing crashes.

Another option considered by civil servants was to increase the number of speed cameras on Britain's roads. To fund the new initiatives, money generated by fines would be used to buy more speed cameras. "We need to be careful that we improve road safety and not just raise revenue," said Baroness Hayman.

Motoring organisations welcomed the anti-speed campaign. The AA said: "We fully support the government's stance. More cameras would also be useful if they were targeted at accident blackspots and



# DAILY POEM

#### **Pied Beauty**

by Gerard Manley Hopkins

Glory be to God for dappled things -For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow; For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim; Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings; Landscape plotted and pieced - fold, fallow, and plough; And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim. All things counter, original, spare, strange; Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?) With swift, slow; sweet, sour, adazzle, dim; He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change: Praise him.

This week's poems come from the new Faber Book of Beasts: an anthology of "some of the best poems in English about the creatures who share our planet", edited by Paul Muldoon (Faber & Faber, £14.99).

# Judge Jules is Radio 1's new dance weapon

Radio 1 has poached its fourth star disc jockey from its rival station, Kiss FM, as it moves itself relentlessly into the dance mu-

Judge Jules, one of the bestknown club and dance music DJs in the country, has followed Danny Rampling, Dave Pearce and Lisa L'Anson on the trip from Kiss's trendy north London headquarters to the more sober surroundings of Broadcasting House.

In the anonymous world of dance music, the DJs have replaced bands and singers as the stars. They go on tours of clubs and produce records just like old-fashioned bands and Radio I has been signing up a team around its home-grown grandfather of dance DJs, Pete Tong.

The addition of Judge Jules to Radio 1's schedule will see

output devoted to dance music increase to a rather mammoth 10 hours every Friday and 13 hours every Saturday, with another four hours on Sunday night. In all, the station - which has parted company over the last four years with its old star DJs such as Simon Bates and Dave Lee Travis - is now devoting 34 hours a week to

The dance music boom now covers such a bewildering array of styles from jungle, drum and bass and speed garage to handbag house, techno and trance that Radio 1 has changed its rules on creating a playlist. "It used to be put together by the suits," said a Radio 1 spokesman. "Now all the DJs, producers and specialists can come along."



-- Paul McCann Rave treatment: Problems facing clubbers include 'PVC bottom', 'clubber's finger' and facial cigarette burns

Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

# Dangers that lurk in the shadows of clubland

Every weekend, millions of young people take illegal drugs and dance in dark rooms filled with loud music. But there are many dangers lurking in the shadows. Next month a meeting of club owners, doctors and police will discuss how to make it a safe pastime. Paul McCann reports.

"PVC Bottom" may sound like something attached to a kitchen implement but it is in fact one of the more minor ailments that can affect clubbers.

"PVC Bottom" is when girls wear a pair of PVC shorts to nightclubs without underwear and dance for six or seven hours. Accident and emergency departments report dozens of cases of severe chafing, almost like burns, caused by the friction of PVC on flesh.

It is just one of a number of unique health concerns raised

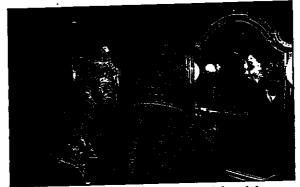
there are other, smaller clubs, that send us dozens of problems every weekend. Clubbing now accounts for a very large proportion of what the young population does. It is our concern that all clubs they go to should be made safe."

. The conference will also recommend the provision of "chill out" areas to allow dancers to cool down and the provision of free water to rehydrate clubbers who have taken ecstasy.

It will be addressed by George Howarth, the Home Office minister, drug counsellors, policemen and doctors, but the sponsors of the confer-Cream in Liverpool, Liverpool University and the North West NHS also want clubbers to go.

One of the subjects up for debate will be whether clubbers should be able to get ecstasy tested, as they can in Amsterdam, to make sure they are not buying dangerous cocktails.

Already up and running are leafleting campaigns at some clubs to let people know what chemicals ecstasy can contain.



Floor plan: Clubs want better care for injured dancers Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

clubbing that will be discussed at an upcoming conference trying to make clubs healthier. Other strange club-related

by the massive popularity of

injuries include "clubber's finger" which is where dancers try to dislodge what they think is a cigarette butt stuck to the bottom of their shoe only to discover it is a piece of broken glass, which causes tiny lacerations to fingertips. Cigarette burns in the face are also a worry - these are due to people waving their arms around as they dance with a lit cigarette - as are torn calf muscles or tendons from hours of dancing.

The concern of the conference, Health of the Clubbing Nation, will be to try to bring smaller nightclubs up to scratch with the famous big-name clubs which have their own medical teams and security.

"We see around 1,000 admissions a year from nightclubs," said Dr Christopher Luke, a consultant at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital's accident and emergency department. "Only one or two of them are from the biggest club of all, Cream, which has its own medical team and welltrained staff. Naming no names

A concern for the groundbreaking HIT drug-counselling team in Liverpool is that the Bill by the MP Barry Legg to close down any clubs where drugs have been taken is not an impediment to getting a health message across to club owners and club-goers.

Despite the media focus on ecstasy the conference will also hear that 80 per cent of admissions to hospitals from clubs are caused by drinking and violence compared with just 10 per cent due to ecstasy problems such as panic attacks.

Dr Luke also reflects the experience of many clubbers that ecstasy can make a safer environment: "In clubs where ecstasy exists the level of violence is appreciably lower. Where drink is the main cultural vehicle, violence is endemic," he said.

The conference will cover the entire clubbing from getting in to sexual relations so there is a representative from the National Association of Licensed Door Supervisors and one from the Brook Advisory Centres to talk about sexual health. ■ The Health of the Clubbing Nation, Cream nightclub.

Liverpool, 31 October

Welcome to Marlboro Country. E THEM BREATHE YOUR SMOKE cers Warning Mariboro Lights 6 mg Tar 0.5 mg Nicotine Medium mg Nicotine



Karen Kingston: 'After I'd been going to Bali on holiday for four years I decided it was time to get a man to go with the lifestyle'

Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

# If you want to sort out your life, sort out your cupboards first

For Karen Kingston, part New Age thinker, part businesswoman, space-clearing has become a way of life. It's a philosophy that has shown her the path from basement gloom to enlightenment and a surprise best-selling book.

Karen Kingston may look entirely ordinary as she sits in her paprika trouser suit and sips an apple juice, but she is anything but. "Look," she says, leaning forward, "even five years ago I wouldn't have talked about this to someone that I didn't know."

She still seems a little neryous, but then she is New Age with capital letters and has come to explain to me someclearing" and to discuss her best-selling book on the subject.

But first we talk numbers. "It's sold 50,000 copies here and 50,000 copies in the States in a very short time." The first UK print run was only a few thousand, and there have been six reprints in the UK during the first year. "In the States it's gone completely mainstream and has been put right in the home dec- "No! I go around clapping and

orating sections."

Feng Shui may have some some about space-clearing and there is nothing mainstream about that. "The best way to describe place has an atmosphere or energy frequency and I have declear out the old atmospheres and out in a new one of your

Confused? Let's start from the beginning.

"I rented lots of places and some of them were ghastly," she explains. "I had been worked very hard to develop my intuition and I had started being sensitive to places.

The turning point for me was a ground-floor flat. It just had this awful energy. It was so dark and despairing and I noticed that while I was there thing she invented called "space I began to change. I became insular and started to become depressed. I had an unhappy love affair when I was in that

> Karen, now in her forties, was New Age long before it was fashionable. "It was in that flat that I started to do these spaceclearing techniques that I had

been developing." What, like spring cleaning?

ringing bells and this kind of Creating Sucred Space with

So, more like an exorcism? terrific chapters on how to clear "No. I've never experienced any spirits or anything like that. It was a house built in the 1920s and it had never been lived in by anyone who was afit," says Karen, "is that each fluent or very happy. This energy had simply built up and got lodged there. I had moved in vised a 21-step programme to and it had affected me. "Then I started changing

> e energy, through various techniques using sound. I just used clapping and an old school

Space-clearing takes in many aspects of leng shui, the Chinese art of home arrangement, and other New Age practices, but the lessons of that first flat still stand. Karen is convinced that places, like people, have patterns. So if one couple quarrels continually in a house she would expect the next couple to do so. If the company that was previously in your office went bankrupt, start to worry now.

But the first thing you have to do is clear out the clutter. You cannot space-clear a house if you cannot get in the front door (as was the case with one of her Australian clients years ago).

The idea is that everything that you don't either love or use must go. Otherwise energy becomes stagnant and people get stuck in ruts. Many people nev-

er get beyond this part of the new relationship. At the time I ing to create something in your book, as they send for a skip and head for the attic.

Karen believes that as people sort out their belongings, they also sort out their lives. Of course, some go overboard. "This one woman wrote to say that she was moving to a new house and that all she was taking was my book, her husband. the children, animals, plants, a bell and some candles. I get let-

The key to Karen's success is the way she manages to promote her esoteric theories in practical ways. It is impossible not to laugh at some of her stories (or to be envious of a lifestyle that involves living half the year in Bali and half in London: she fell in love with the island after a chance visit and was astonished to find a culture in which space-clearing has long been a way of life). For instance, she tells this one about how she found true love.

"After I'd been going to Bali on holiday for four years I decided it was time to get a man to go with the lifestyle." She grins at this. "So I wrote my shopping list. You have to be in her book title - and she seems specific about these kinds of things. Height, eye colour, sex-

ual stamina, everything. "By this time I was doing a lot of feng shui work and I knew I had to create space for this again: "The great clue for try- know.

had two wardrobes of clothes. I cleared it. I also had a big chest of drawers. I thought that he would be travelling light - I knew I wanted a Balinese - and so I only cleared one drawer. I

morning and visualise this man in my bed." in weeks she had found Mr saying, 'But Karen, WH Smith his way back to England. When he came to the flat Karen showed him his wardrobe and drawer. "He said 'My God, were you expecting me?' Since

then, nothing surprises him." Except for the fact that she gets paid for space-clearing. "He thinks that is a hoot!" She charges £100 an hour and makes a good living from her triangular career of author, workpresenter and

space-clearer. She is upfront about money, and her attitude towards feng shui is refreshing. too. "Fish tanks? Don't use 'em." But the feng shui boom has fitted her own purposes it is no mistake that it appears aware of all sorts of bottom lines. "Are you going to put the phone number in? I'd like to create some work for my team."

Then she goes rather cosmic

life is not to care whether some-I knew that one had to go and thing happens or not. It didn't matter to me how the book sold. I make more than enough money from my workshops and consultations, so the book was an extra. This meant I was able would lie in the bath every to set impossible goals for it. I wanted to see it in every airport in the world, and I wanted it to Then she went to Bali. With- be in WH Smith. People kept tles." They were wrong - and Karen also claims to have seen it at several airports. "Of course, it may be that they take the stands down after I pass by!"

> Her new project is a book called Clear Your Cluster and Change Your Life! It will come out next year. Her hands outline a shape. "It has to be small so it doesn't constitute clutter!"

She says people are fascinated by the subject. "People come up to me and say: 'Karen, can I just ask you one quick question?' That's the phrase they use. I think it is a fundamental part of human nature to want to know about yourself."

I bite my tongue and swallow my one quick question about what it means to have a seriously out-of-tune piano in one corner of the lounge, even though, for one moment, I really thought I needed to



# BELOVED AND BONK

#### Diary of a divorce

My husband has just left me so the dog has begun to chase the chickens again. She has caught the sparks from the thunderbolt that has struck us all. This has meant that at moments of highest drama, such as - ME: "Don't you remember making love in the shower when we had a flat full of guests?" HIM: "I never liked that green paint in the bathroom," we have to break off so I can scream myself hoarse at the bottom of the garden amid squawking fowls and a boxer with neon eyes.

It is the sort of thing we would have laughed ourselves silly over a few weeks ago but there seems to have been a bit of a sense-of-humour failure since Beloved came home and announced his imminent departure to be with Bonk in a Notting Hill

It's all in a perfectly noble cause, mind you: Personal Growth - his - and as he so very generously says, mine too. Sweet, really. I spent my first night of personal growth lying face down on our lawn chewing grass and keening into the worm casts. I have been doing lots of similar enhanced development work every night

Sadly, Beloved finds my reactions a little embarrassing. Having been brave enough to break free from the constraining shackles of marriage, he is standing in a shiny new world washed clean of all the cloying shards of years of wasted past. So when I finally lost it yesterday, and smashed our entire dinner service (very neatly in a skip) and sliced up my arms for good measure, he was tight-lipped. He told me tersely to change my trousers because the children would be upset if they saw the blood. Later he asked if there was anything that "sparked it off".

At moments like this, headlines flash before my eyes - such as "Aliens Stole My Husband". Is this the same man who used to balance peanuts on his nose for my entertainment and do walrus imperson-

Of course, those were the days when & S boxers were acceptable and he was happy to cycle to work looking a total nerd in one of those back-to- front helmets. Nothing much short of Paul Smith and Calvin Klein on his botty these days, and precious little peanut balancing since he became a weekly boarder in London and could officially say he was a film director. Not a great deal of smiling, either. Do you ever see a film director smiling?

I blame it on the telly, driving nice staff out into the nasty corrupting world of freelancedom where they drink testosterone with egomania chasers. London media freelanceness did for Beloved, poor lamb. He rediscovered the joys of single life, this time not as a poor student but as a grownup with serious dosh, glam job and a Clerkenwell flat. Coming home to a wife who knows her chickens by name and worries if the wind will snap her rudbeckias must have begun to seem a pretty unattractive option. I mean, compared with giving Bonk a once-over against the glittering backdrop of the City skyline ...

So I'm coming to terms with it all by thinking of it as a style decision. A country wife and kids just didn't fit with Beloved's Criterion dinners and Armani trews. Like wearing wellies to the Baftas. With us still attached he could never have that ultimate media accessory: a divorce. It was simply a decision forced on him by

So what man would fit my new style? What exactly does match a divorcee with two kids and a rudbeckia fixation? Well, let's put it this way - ain't no point ringing Alan Rickman and telling him I'm finally free. Something more countrified might be suitable and more accessible (since the rudbeckias and chickens don't allow travelling for sex). I've never really fancied anything in tweeds but after 20 years of regular delightful bonking and now two weeks

without, I may have to lower my standards. Or would it be simpler to have a sex clause in the divorce settlement agreement? You know, the cost of the mortgage, the Aga service and two sessions every month. I'll have to ask the lawyer. Watch this space. Stevie Morgan

# Close encounters of the Alan Clark kind

Alan Clark may be an irresistible figure in the national landscape, but in Saltwood village (population 721) he is simply unmissable. Robert Verkaik grew up at the foot of Clark's castle drive

You, dear reader, may sit in your armchair watching his elegant television history of the Tory party or leaf through his Diaries savouring the de-haut-en-bas barbs and amazing tales of lechery but I, brought up in the shadow of his beautiful castle in Saltwood, never walk past the to the castle gate). place without a wary eye on the battlements. Because I rememshots from those battlements at village boys out conkering.

Alan Clark may have a spc-

cars; we see him in leather dri- one of the Clark Rottweilers turbed the blackbird nesting in ving hat and goggles whizzing (the ones that attacked a BBC round the village being Toad of A 69-year-old Lothario?

Neighbours are used to him appearing at the castle gate in trampish garb - scruffy jumper and baggy trousers set off by a green woolly "Benny" hat. Seen like that, he is not the last of the red-hot lovers but there are still red-hot political issues: will he build a hospice on the area of his land which now serves as the local allotments? Will he ever re-allow open days at the castle? He stopped them because he said there was continued pilfering (including the main key Such is the effect of great

men up close. Tom Fuller, 18. ber how his sons once took pot-still lives opposite the eastle estate and used to be the Clarks' paper boy. Occasionally Clark gives him a lift up the hill in one cial place in the national con- of his motor cars. Tom is duly pect his castle would have a miniskirt might have something moat; on warm summer morn- to do with it. And then last year ings we see him swimming in it. the Fullers' cat, admittedly on he banged the wooden You know about his vintage castle grounds, was savaged by portcullis too loudly and dis-

film crew on the day Clark was selected as MP for Kensington and Chelsea). Then there are the casualties of the Diaries: the fat wife of a parish councillor whom he caught "stealing" firewood from the castle grounds. And the "incredibly tiresome" woman behind him at a Christmas service who "RADA'd up" the responses during the prayers, and her "buffer" of a husband who "blundered in occasionally, nicotine tones,

and always out of time so that

momentarily he came to be

leading some of the prayers".

Many of the villagers have felt his famous bark. Chris Capon is a well known local Tory councillor who has been Clark's postman and friend for over 20 years. As postman he often found himself the victim of the "Clark bark", reserved for poorly performing tradesmen and sciousness, but in Saltwood we grateful, but wonders if the trespassers. Postman Capon see him close up. You might ex- presence of his girlfriend in a got the full blasting with, "POSTMAN!!! don't bloody well slam the door," every time

the castle letter box. Says Mr Capon: "He's certainly got quite a temper," but adds, "people admire his outspokenness and the way he conducts his life. He is what he is and doesn't ponce around the village saying I'm Alan Clark.

Despite all this, in the village itself, there is a cross-party hardcore of local people who are fiercely loyal to their glamorous castellan. Even Saltwood and Hythe Labour party organiser, Bernard Sealy, admits to a grudging admiration, expressing a preference for Clark as his local MP rather than the current incumbent Michael Howard. Says Mr Sealy: "I think he's fairly honest. When he's drunk he says he's drunk and not on tablets. And I don't think he would do anyone down unless they had an attractive wife or daughter."

So settle in your armchair, dear reader, the effect of great men close up may be just the same as at a distance after all. Alan Clark's 'History of the Tory Party' is on Sundays, 8.30pm, on

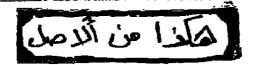


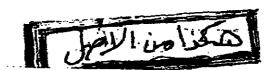


THE SCHOOL LEAVING LAW HAS CHANGED!

This is important news for young people who'll be 16 during this school year, and for their parents and their fators employers

There is now a single date when young people can legally leave achool and take a full time iob. That date is the last Friday in June; in 1998 it will be PRIDAY 26 JUNE. Trung people word he able to leave before then even if they're already 16. The Government intends that the change in the law will help more young people get GCSEs and other useful qualifications, and benefit from high-quality work experience, before they leave school. Further details are available from schools, local education authorities, the Careera Service or Job Centres, or by writing to School Attendance Team, DEES, Smetasty Buildings, Great Smith Street, Leadon SWIP 38T. Email: Infielding great.





# 19/FASHION







# Four ages of woman, all of them young

Schoolgiri, student, working girl, granny: all those looks are on offer this autumn from top designers and from the high street shops that make their looks affordable. So far, so -> good. But a word of warning, writes Tamsin Blanchard, you'd better not be too old - or it could all go terribly wrong. Photographs are by Vikki Jackman

TCE

disguise the fact that their dream customer is a precocious, 6ft-tall 13-year-old with strong ankles, used to wearing 4in heels and possessed of more dosh than sense. They have even taken their inspiration from the school playground, al-something a little more strong though think St Thinians and the Bash Street Kids rather than Cheltenham Ladies' College. John Galliano, for one, has de-signed the ultimate school uniform guaranteed to send mothers and headmistresses into a frenzy. Blazers are two sizes too small, skirts just about cover knickers and short socks are worn with stiletto heels.

In reality, of course, it is only the women who are old enough to have a child of school age who are likely to have earned enough money to be able to afford £700 for a school blazer. And would such a woman really want to go into competition with her lithe and adolescent daughter? It's not just Galliano and a handful of other designers who think so. The high-street chains have joined the conspiracy too: At Jigsaw, (or Marks & Spencer, for that matter) you can buy a V-neck tank top just like the one your brother used to wear when he was in the fifth form, and at Hobbs, the chain you always thought was for serious women, there are flighty little grey miniskirts like the ones your brother used to chase when he was a sinh-former, Not all designers and chain stores are caught in the schoolgirl' groove, however, Other ages of women have also caught their collective imagi-

The Independent is launching a

competition in conjunction with

Clothes Show Live and Fujifilm

to find the Young Catwalk

Photographer of the Year. To

enter, all you need to do is think

"fishion-in-action", get out on

the streets with your camera,

and be creative. Great catwalk

photography is all about catch-

ng a moment, and a look. Capturing style on the streets is a

good starting-point.

nation, such as Bohemian student, working girl, and granny too. Perhaps the headmistress

The twentysomething stubased Clements Ribeiro, them-SELVES LIOI SO RODE OUR OI COM come clean on their fixation for to have forgotten, are for you. youth. They have done little to On the high street, Monsoon has a precious beaded shift dress, while Biba, reinvented for the Nineties, has embroidered cardigans that might just pass for second-hand.

and strident, how about a dose

of good, old-fashioned power dressing? As you may have heard, the Eighties are back in fashion. Hard-edged aggression has re-entered the fashion designer's lexicon by means of killer heels, pinstripe suits and knock 'em dead shoulder pads. If you're having problems being taken seriously at work, you needn't. Depending on your salary, go for Gucci spike heels. Pearce Fionda trouser suits, or Givenchy make-a-pass-at-meand-I'll-show-you-what-a-stiletto-hecl-in-your-foot-feels-like miniskirts. If you haven't quite reached those dizzy heights on the pay scale, Warehouse and Morgan have just the thing to help you on your way, including a grey flannel bustier and a sharply tailored suit. Oasis and Karen Millen can supply the leather skirt. Just add metallic spike shoes from Russell and Bromley and there will be no

stopping you. her power suit and lip gloss and hit the glass ceiling in the Eighties and is still there, may be just about burnt-out enough to think about downshifting or retiring altogether. That does not mean fashion has forgotten

can get a look in after all,

dent who shops at charity stores, car boot sales and flea markets is a perennial inspiration for design teams. They love her mismatched, make-doand-mend style, from the Fifties embroidered cardigans she haggles over to the Thirties tea dresses and bits of underslips she finds in the £5 box. For women who have never outgrown student days, but who don't like the smell of mothballs, designers such as the Italians Anna Molinari, and Dolce e Gabbana as well as London-If you're beyond the charm of student style, and looking for

> has been hawked about the Jigsaw, French Connection, and Hobbs have enough checks, tweeds and kick-pleats to see

Any woman who donned

catwalks since Prada rediscovered square-toe shoes and retro patterns. Miss Jean Brodie tweeds, bouclé wools, kickpleat skirts and sensible heels form another key look for winter. Karen Millen has jumpers reminiscent of Sinties wallpaper;

you into early retirement. Of course, if you don't fit into any of these stereotypes you can always do a bit of pick 'n' mix and wear your tweedy check skirt with a high-riseshoulder jacket and a pair of cosy slippers. Take the fashion designer's advice: if you're young enough, you can get

Stylist: Charlie Harrington Make up: Alex Babsky Model: Annica at Select Photographer's assistant: Sarah Greenwood

Main picture: 'student' Black beaded shift with roses, £125, by Monsoon (for your nearest branch, call 0/71-3/3 3000); black cardigan with embroidered rose, £69.95, by Biba, 15 Shorts Gardens, London WC2 (enquiries, 0171-226 0788); black leather shoes with strap and rose, £44.99, by Ravel (enquiries, 0171-631 0224); black fishnet tights, £3.99, by Jonathan Aston, from branches of Fenwick nationwide (for further information, call 0171-

Worsted wool crepe A-line wrap skirt in charcoal, £49.99, by Hobbs (enquiries, 0171-586 5550); grey skinnyrib V-neck tank top, £39.95, by Jigsaw (for your nearest branch, call 0171-491 4484); striped scarf, £21.99. by Accessorise (for nearest branch, call 0171-313 3000); grey wool socks, £4.30, by Wolsey, at Debenhams branches (enquiries, 016 262 6755); black ent leather loafers, £30, at

selected branches of Marks &

Spencer (call 0171-935 4422 for

Top left: 'schoolgiri'

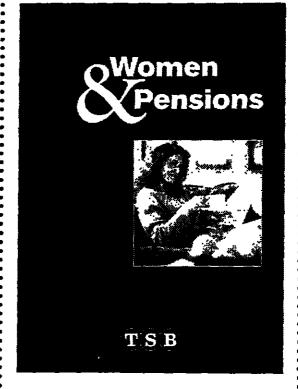
Top centre: 'working girl' Grey trousers with black piping, £59.99, and grey fitted Jacket, £119.99, by Morgan

further information)

(enquiries, 017)-383 2888); grey wool bustier, £30, by Warehouse (enquiries, 0171-278 3491); metallic snakeskin shoes with metal heel, £155, by Russell & Bromley (for stockists, call 0171-629 6903)

Top right: 'granny' Camel, brown checked V-neck umper, £69.95, by Karen Millen (01622 664 032); check tweed skirt with front kick-pleat, £52, by Jigsaw (enquiries, 0171-49) 4484); scarf, £10.99, by Accessorise: rust lace-up boots, £15. by Pied A Terre, 102 Kensington High Street, London W8; cotton velvet deluxe tights, £20, by Wolford (for your nearest stockist, call 0171-935 9202)

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## her. The other extreme to the naughty schoolgirl look is that of granny chic, another look that away with anything. COMPETITION Wanted: Young Catwalk Photographer of the Year

A panel of judges, to include Tamsin Blanchard, fashion editor of The Independent, the veteran catwalk photographer Chris Moore, Caryn Franklin, presenter of The Clothes Show, and a representative from Fujifilm, will choose five finalists to attend Clothes Show Live and . photograph the catwalk show on Friday, 5 December. The win-

First prize is a Fujifilm Rules GA645AF Autofocus camera worth £995, and the chance to assist The Independent's catwalk photographer during London Fashion Week in February. with the winning shot published in The Independent, and two tickets to Clothes Show Live 97.

Two runners-up will receive £200-worth of Fuji Professional from those taken on the day. Show Live 97.

• Entrants to submit three "fashion-in-action" photographs to Young Catwalk Photographer of the Year, Fashion Department, The Independent. 18th Floor, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, by the closing date of Friday 24 October 1997

All photographs should be ning picture will be chosen film, and two tickets to Clothes captioned clearly, stating the Show Live 97 on Friday, 5 Decname and address of the entrant

The judges' decision is final No correspondence can be entered into by the organisers The organisers reserve the right to cancel the competition The winner and runner-ups must co-operate fully for publicity purposes if required Entrants must provide their own travel to and from Clothes

There is no cash alternative



# Mistakes, he's had a few, but then again, too few to mention

Richard Eyre is about to hand over the artistic direction of the National Theatre to Trevor Nunn. In the midst of rehearsing his final show, he talks to David Benedict about the past 10 years and how he played them his way

Although he abandoned his brief acting ca-

reer years ago - "I didn't travel far, but at least I learnt from the journey" - last year Richard Eyre had an uncredited cameo role in a National Theatre production. Nobody sow him. In fact, his appearance was entirely fictional. He was conjured up as a character in Violin Time, a deliriously ludicrous comic monologue by Ken Campbell, Britain's comic maestro of theatrical anarchy. Campbell spun a yarn in which Eyre warned him of a dire predicament: "You are the victim of Famation of Character... They've got you on the hamster/ gerbil treadwheel now. It means your next show has got to be better than they said your last one was." Campbell is still spinning, but two weeks from today Eyre will open his production of Tom Stoppard's The Invention of Love, his National Theatre swansong, before stepping quietly off the wheel of success.

Since succeeding Sir Peter Hall as artistic director of Denys Lasdun's South Bank landmark, he has run a building with a staff of 800, and overseen 189 productions, including 65 new plays and seven West End transfers, 22 of which he directed himself. Several of these have crossed over to Broadway and beyond, prompting Frank Rich, New York's most famous theatre critic, to describe him as "the most versatile producer in the English-speaking theatre". He has also found time to give 32 Platform performances, write Utopia and Other Places - an eloquent account of his childhood combined with astute essays on theatre - nip across to Covent Garden to make his opera debut directing Verdi's La Traviata (at the behest of the late Georg Solti), pick up a knighthood and listen to The Archers. Not bad for 10 years' work.

(non) appearance in *Violin Time*, chimes eerily with his feelings when he began the job. In a rare, published excerpt from his diaries he described himself as "performing an act called Richard Eyre". In the midst of rehearsals for the Stoppard play, he evokes his first year with a suitably theatrical analogy. "What you say about an actor who is inadequate to a role is that they're over-parted. I felt over-parted at the beginning. I found it very, very tough, partly because I thought I could do the job before I started it but then, when I did start, it seemed so much larger, more lonely than I'd imagined." A smile creeps across his lean, serious face. "I was well-inclined to back out. It was a toss-up as to whether to continue with the danger of ignominious failure or to resign in deep shame. Cowardice won out," he laughs, sheepishly.

In a recent, rather bitter tirade, playwright and director Peter Gill attacked Eyre's programming, suggesting that he'll be remembered solely for Guys and Dolls. It wasn't meant as a compliment but thousands of delighted theatregoers would see that as a more than fitting monument. In the face of successive standstill Arts Council grants, Eyre remounted this money-spin-

protestations mark him out as one of a startlingly small number of dissenters. The first year was tough, as Eyre found himself having to carry out inherited job losses following a £3.5m cut in subsidy, but by the end of the Eighties he'd relaxed and his tenure is now routinely described as "a golden era".

That's no mean teat. He has had to fill three auditoria, each housing three plays at any given moment. That means nine productions in the repertoire plus three in rehearsal, another 12 in the planning stage, plus touring, developing new writing in the National Studio, the burgeoning education department, not to mention the West End and Broadway. Most of his critics resemble reviewers of anthologies who complain about the exclusion of their personal vourites. A lack of classic European work has been noted, while others have frowned at the accent on American writing. Notoriously sensitive to criticism though he is - "journalists are not slow to point out a run of failure, by which they mean a couple of shows which aren't up to scratch" - Eyre is sanguine about it. "By definition, the National Theatre has a sort of exemplary role. It's a loaded definition I know, but there's an expectation that it offers the best of theatre and satisfies all constituencies. It's castigated for not being in the vanguard of new writing, or for not upholding the classical tradition. It's expected to tour, or to present the very best in scenic design yet on the other hand not to be lavish in expenditure on design, and so on and so on."

As his legion of supporters will tell you, Eyre, an almost diffident character, is the last man to sing his own praises. Much of the credit for the National's success, however, is down to his taste. Genista McIntosh, until recently his executive director, describes this urbane man who is notably short of small talk in surprising terms. "A real showman, although Guys and Dolls is an unusual example of his work, which is careful and austere in the best sense. He's a very entertaining and funny man who enjoys being entertained, which is not in any way to make him sound superficial. His great skill as a producer is that his rigorous and taste-



The pragmatic idealist: 'Maybe I should have been more reckless, but one of the reasons the National has survived is that I recognise I do something well, but other people do things better,' says Richard Eyre (above photo: Nicola Kurtz), whose productions over the past 10 years have ranged from the hugely successful 'Guys and Dolls', recently revived (below left photo: PAL), to the latest sell-out, 'King Lear' (below right photo: Geraint Lewis)

cessful gambit of drawing in smaller companies with co-productions, companies like Jatinder Verma's Tara Arts. Theatre de Complicite, Cambridge Theatre Company and Gloria. Eyre sees this more simply. "I always quote George Devine: 'Policy is who you work with.' What plays you do,

Theatre productions Dealer's Choice and Closer, feels he owes his playwriting career to Eyre. He also admires Eyre's directing skilll. "I've never seen a badly acted Eyre production." This probably stems from the his regular production photographer John Playing a character, as underlined by his ful approach is always on the edge of be- who's going to direct them, who's going to Haynes, who earmarks Eyre's loyalty and ing subverted by a sense of razzmatazz." act them, design them and so on. Those intuition. It is those qualities which led him

Former associate director David Hare highlights Eyre's theatrical archeology, the policy of resurrecting neglected classics which resulted in great evenings like Rutherford and Son and Absolute Hell. He also pinpoints a historical change of direction. "By the time he arrived it was clear that the staple post-war repertory wasn't working with the public. Richard is responsible for the invention of a new repertory, a multiplicity of different kinds of ner to a whirlwind of praise. Gill's theatre." He's referring to the highly suc-

decisions are my job." One of the achievements of which he is most proud was the mounting of Hare's 1990-93 state-of-thenation trilogy (Racing Demon, Murmuring Judges and The Absence of War). "His work as a director has been overlooked," says Hare. "When the trilogy was performed over a single day, the standard of acting at the end of the evening was as high as it had been in the morning." Patrick Marber, Steve Coogan's long-term comedy collaborator turned author of the hit National

to create a family of directors like Declan Donnellan (Fuente Ovejuna, Angels in America) and Nicholas Hytner (Ghetto, The Madness of George III) and to exclude certain directors who have gained popularity elsewhere but who doesn't meet his exacting standards. "It's only in the interest of self-preservation," he says, self-deprecatingly. "You can only work in good faith. Trying to second-guess the audience is inevitably corrupting. If you say, 'I know it's not very good but audiences will come',

then it corrodes you." This article of faith has been force to battle with the need to balance the books. "Maybe I should have been more reckless," he muses, "but one of the reasons the National has survived well, but other people do things better."

ates the contradictory image of a pragmatic idealist, borne out by his articulate public voice. "Twenty years ago people were not saying, 'Oh, isn't theatre a fucking bore'. People weren't being paid by the Sunday Times to write long pieces about Why I Never Go To The Theatre. So I felt I had to act as an advocate for the medium and the only way you can do that is actually on the stage. You've got to find the work that says, 'Look, you don't have to go to theatre, no one's obliging you to, but if you do go, there's an experience you can't have anywhere else'. Yes, bad theatre is what you say it is but look at how many bad movies or bad bands there are. So I got very interested in Robert Lepage's work, in Theatre de Complicite, in encouraging David Hare to play to his strengths, or Stephen Daldry doing An Inspector Calls. They're all about people making the medium as expressive as possible and making an argument for theatre as a medium that can stand alongside Damien Hirst or Trainspotting and you could just hold up

your head and say, 'It's not what you say'.' Nevertheless, he concedes that bad theatre is peculiarly difficult to watch: "I ·

point about theatre is that you go in as individuals and end up as a community. If you want to dissent from that you can't do it invisibly. In a cinema, unless you go and assault the projectionist, whatever you do relaxed rehearsal atmosphere observed by is that I've recognised that I do something is not going to affect the performance. It's a delicate chemistry but, when you get real You can go into Lear and take the temperature before it starts and do so again at the end and it's as if every molecule has been electrically and emotionally charged. Now, I like that. Some people don't.'

That kind of non-defensive confidence scotches any notion that he might go gently into that good night. Solti's death has robbed us of their projected Pelleas and Mélisande but he will film his powerful King Lear with Ian Holm for the BBC. He is also discussing a series on theatre in the 20th century, not to mention directing Liam Neeson as Oscar Wilde in The Judas Tree. Hare's new play at the Almeida next year. He is also considering writing fiction. "to the horror of friends of mine who are novelists". There certainly won't be much time for regrets as he watches Trevor Nunn take up the reins. "What I won't miss is what I call 'the blocked loo syndrome'." he confides, chirpily, "where everything ends up on your desk up to and including someone coming round and saying, 'There's a loo blocked in front-of-house'. To which you have to say, 'Well, get out the plunger'.' The Invention of Love' previews from 25 Sept at the National Theatre, London SE1 (0171know people who absolutely hate even be- 928 2252). Richard Eyre will be in convering invited to join a community. The sation at the National on 29 Sept

#### FIRST NIGHT

#### Paul Taylor on Playhouse Creatures, The Old Vic, London

No, it wasn't nearly as big a step on-stage and backstage in the willing to help out by giving her as getting the vote in 1918. But it was surely a step in the right direction when, at the Restoration in 1660, women's roles were at long last given to women rather than to boy transvestites. Playhouse Creatures, by April de Angelis, shows how, for these pioneering professional actresses, the new social and artistic freedoms came with distinct drawbacks in the shape of fickle, exploitative aristocratic patrons, audiences bent on treating female "thesps" as whores, and a men-only policy on financial "sharing" in the

The piece could have been a grim whine or a thinly disguised Open University programme. In Lynne Parker's zestful production at the Old funny and gutsy evocation of life

attiring-room which, at the start, is conjured up from the past by Liz Smith's timeless and hilariously timed - crone of a dresser-cum-stage manager. Connoisseurs of Green Room bitching and of hoicked-up, ample bosoms will get as much out of this show as toilers in the field of women's studies.

Sharp and witty, Ms de Angelis's last play, The Positive Hour, was prepared to confront uncomfortable truths about the sometimes messy, divisive effects of feminism on female fortysomethings. Likewise, there are good moments in this look at a pre-feminist society when we shared victimhood signally failing to unionise the actresses. When Mrs Farley (Saskia Reeves) faces professional ruin because of pregnancy, her colleagues are

a broach-pin abortion. But when she can't go through with this, they recoil superstitiously from buying the fancy petticoat she won't be needing so much in her future career as a vagrant prostitute.

The production is a practical as well as theoretical celebration of the actress's art. Sheila Gish is in brilliant form as Mrs Betterton, the grande dame eventually pushed aside by nubile competitive juniors. Demonstrating how to convey emotions by tilting that flat pugnacious face of hers to different clock-hand positions ("Shame at 20 to seven. Despair at five past 12"), she's the hard-bitten, pedantic technician taken to gloriously batty degrees. But she's authentically thrilling when she performs Lady Macbeth's sleep-walking

manner. And hearing her talk with a sepulchrally fervent nostalgia of the old days when she used to sneak berself on stage in powerful male parts like lago and Hal, you get a tremendous sense of the frustrating inequalities in the repertoire that arguably persist after 300 years of women in theatre.

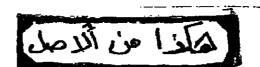
In the second half, the proceedings drift a bit, despite the fact that the agenda also becomes more obvious. We see, with Ali White's Mrs Barry, the emergence of a tougher new breed of actress, intent on taking control of their careers. There's the suggestion that playwrights, like Stephen Noonan's Otway, are beginning to respond to female threats of non-co-operation if roles don't precisely suit the performer's requirements. But by the time

scene in the in-period heroic he finishes a drama tailormade for Rachel Power's Mrs Marshall, she has had to flee from the wrath and the accusations of witchcraft put about by her former protector, the Earl of Oxford.

My own face tilted to the 20 ast 10 of scepticism at certain points (over the central metaphor, for example, you want to ask: were no male bears ever cruelly baited?) but, for the most part, it was positioned at the "heavenly abandonment" of six o'clock. In rep at the Old Vic, London SE1 to 6 Oct (0171-928 7616)

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# Bela Imregi

Bela Ivanicsko (Bela Imregi), fencing coach: born Satoralkavihely, Hungary 25 June 1908; thrice married (three sons, two daughters); died London 23 August 1997.

Bela Imregi was arguably the greatest fencing coach to teach in Britain since the Second World War; only different styles over the decades set a limit on the judgement. By the time he finally stopped teaching, in November 1991 aged 83, he had produced an Olympic and world champion, a world finalist, a world youth finalist and a countless number of other internationals.

His dedication to his chosen sport was phenomenal. In "Belarese", as his fractured English became known, he would say, "Necessary you sleep with sabre under pillow." To Imregi, fencing was not merely a sport but a way of life.

unpronounceable village of Satoralkavjhely, in north-east Hungary close to the Russian border. His surname was originally lvanicsko, but both he and his father made the namechange in the early 1930s to avoid the Russian-sounding original.

He never fenced as a competitor, but enrolled in the famous Honved Club for fencing coaches in Budapest. He already excelled in other sports, having been ranked in the top ten of his country's decathletes and reached national level as a coach in both skiing and tennis. At Houved he not only passed out top in foil and épée but also at sabre, defeating the star sabre pupil 5-0 in the coaches' tournament at the completion of the course.

After he was awarded his Master's certificate in 1935 lmregi's rise was swift. He soon made himself a reputation for Sandy Leckie, British champiteaching women foilists, Ilona on at all three weapons, and five Elek, Olympic Champion in times at sabre: Richard Oldcorn 1936 and 1948 and world cham- (British team captain), Mike

outstanding pupils. During the war Imregi was called up into a reluctant Hungarian army and was for a brief interval at the end of the war a prisoner under the Americans before being released when it was realised that he, along with many others, had been forcibly

conscripted. Back in Hungary, he continued his army career, becoming a major. He took an active part in the Hungarian uprising in 1956 and was a member of the revolutionary committee for sport. As such, he was condemned to death by the Russians.

With his family he fled to the West, and by the end of 1956 was in London, where he joined Salle Paul, then the premier fencing club in Britain. The reputation of Hungarians for sabre meant that he was asked by his new pupils for lessons in what was effectively his third weapon, and for the next 35 years that was never to change. He taught all three weapons, but Britain used him as a sabre specialist.

Not long after his arrival in Britain, Charles de Beaumont, doyen of British fencing and the then British team captain, cajoled Imregi into moving to the London Fencing Club, Salle Paul's nearest rival. He worked pacity until the mid-1960s, withand had to ask his pupils to pay him personally for any lesson. The usual fee was six shillings. Eventually he asked for a proper retainer, which de Beaumont refused. Enough signa-He was born in 1908 in the tures were garnered to force an extraordinary general meeting, but de Beaumont would not give way, and Imregi reluctantly decided to move.

He was already teaching at the London Polytechnic in Regent Street on a one-night-aweek basis, but he now made it his centre of activities, eventually teaching from 5pm till 9.30pm four nights a week. According to one club member, LFC fencers were told by de Beaumont, "If you move to Imregi at the Poly you will not be picked for the British team." The threat worked, and Imregi had to build up his cadre of fencers from scratch.

To the Polytechnic he soon added Westminster School and Oxford University, and then Brookhouse School in Hackney, proving he could create schoolboy champions from the state sector as well as the private.

His list of pupils included

Sue Green, Linda Martin (finalist at the 1982 World Championships), Jim Philbin (five times national sabre champion), Martin Beavers, Steve Netburn (an American who lived in London, who under Imregi became US champion, was runner-up to Bill Hoskyns in the Martini épée and reached the last 16 of the 1968 Olympics), David Eden (Commonwealth sabre champion in 1974). Katie Arup, Sue Lewis, Richard Jaine, Johnathan Lewis, John Zarno, Mike Price, David Martin, Rocco Forte (whom Imregi took on at Oxford and encouraged to a top-12 placing in the National Sabre finals), Christopher Bland (another Oxford pupil, now Chairman of the BBC, who represented Ireland at épée in the 1960 Olympics), Andy Martin, Nick Halsted (team épée silver medallist in 1965, whom Imre-

gi shared with Bill Harmer-Brown, his co-teacher at Westminster) and John Deanfield, sixth in the World Under-20 championships in Madrid in

Deanfield's result was the best ever by a junior British sabreur, and his career perhaps more than anyone's epitomises Bela Imregi's gifts as a coach. there in a purely freelance ca- He was taught by Imregi from his earliest days as a Westminout payment from the club, ster schoolboy, and in 1970 won the British Under-20 and Junior Sabre titles. He was chosen for the British team the same year, aged 19. By 1974 he was the finished article, fast, tactically astute, and with such a complete technique that he would plan several moves ahead before scoring a hit. Only a bad knee injury in 1975 stopped his progress, although he was still good enough to make the Olympic teams of 1976 and

> The telling point is that in 1972, in the run-up to the Munich games, Imregi took him to the Lake District with his family, giving him lessons free of charge throughout his summer holiday. Deanfield duly defeated the silver medallist - a

I joined the Polytechnic in 1977. I was already over 30, but under Imregi's tutelage enjoyed my best results, including Commonwealth and French Open titles. One evening, having won the British Sabre champiouship the previous weekend, and feeling pleased with myself, I went to the club for my normal lesson. Imregi sat me down and demonstrated that I had yet to learn the correct way to hold

Imregi had little interest in pion in 1934, 1935 and 1951, be. Straus, George Birks, Peter personal advancement, almost in an unofficial capacity. ing foremost amongst many Hobson, Ralph Cooperman, none in financial compensation. Pupils would be invited back to his house in Peckham Rye, where they would be given lessons in his tiny garden or in the house itself: the ceiling of his living room was scored with the marks of ill-directed sabre cuts Passers-by would also ston to marvel at the Peckham Park bandstand which Imregi regularly used as an impromptu salle, the clash of steel replacing more familiar melodies.

To Imregi it did not matter if you were of international class or just a club fencer: if you truly loved fencing then he



his latter years at the Poly, his roster of lessons for an evening would range from the club's many British team members to octogenarians such as Dorothy Knowles and Anthony Hyde or young hopefuls just starting

the sport. Imregi's ascendancy in the Sixties was followed by a period of relative exclusion from national squad responsibilities. His concentration on technique made some administrators feel his teaching was too static for the world of constant flèching and high-speed footwork. Despite this he accompanied the team to the Munich Olympics

Up until shortly before the 1976 Olympics he was once again the National Sabre Coach but on the direction of the Sabre Committee was superseded by their newly arrived protégé from Hungary only months before the games. Typically, Imregi was not invited to the games themselves and watched what was available on television.

Bela Imregi was stubborn, quick to anger and passionate in his beliefs. You crossed him at your peril, and once crossed Imregi was slow to forgive. He loved to teach you to fence. In even if the perpetrators them- ten a tempestuous partnership,

elevation. He was also generous at last had a companion who to a fault to his pupils, and endlessly loyal.

Beneath those famous beetle eyebrows the eyes were full of mischief. On one occasion, when Jim Philbin playfully slapped Imregi on the back, the 78-year-old coach executed a perfect pratfall, seeming to die of an immediate heart attack. A few anxious seconds later he had jumped to his feet, delighted with his trick. Another time, in hospital for checks and with various tubes and wires attached to his chest, he pointed to them and observed "What this? One BBC2, one ITV?"

But then Imregi's English was one of his trademarks. "Littly faster, littly faster" would ring out of salle or school gym, or, if a practice "stationary" flèche led to an incorrectly raised back leg, the admonition "What you do? Not one little doggy thing!"

He was three times married. His first wife died of cancer and his second marriage was dissolved, by which time he had two sons and two daughters. In 1957, one evening teaching at Paul's, he met Audrey Adams, a secretary in a travel office, and had a formidable list of enemies, they married in 1964. It was of-

understood his devotion to fencing and who helped to make it possible. Their one child, Nicky, was the only one of his children who took up fencing seriously, reaching the Under 20 sabre team and the

Olympic training squad. Imregi never poached pupils; they came to him of their own volition, and if ever they entered the salle without first saluting in his direction they soon received the sharp edge of his tongue. A week of training missed, and one would be met with "Hello. My name Imregi. ested in his fencers winning: ation was very specifically for a severe mistrust of authority. they had to fence well. Born into the Russian Orthodox Church, he converted to Roman Catholicism, and was a devout practitioner. But fencing was

always his main religion. Bela Imregi was buried on 1 September. At the funeral service, held at St Thomas More's, Dulwich, the Catholic priest who gave the address, Fr John O'Connor, told the parable of the talents. In Imregi's case, he said. it was particularly appropriate: Imregi had made the most of his very special talents, as both fencer and teacher. Richard Cohen

# Philip Balkwill

Philip Graham Balkwill. schoolmaster; born Cobham. Surrey 8 March 1940: staff. Heathmount School 1961-66: staff, Charterhouse 1966-97; married 1971 Lesley Gregg (one son, one daughter; marriage dissolved 1982), 1989 Mary Barter (nee Francis); died Godalming, Surrey 21 August 1997.

When he appointed Philip Balkwill to teach at Charterhouse in 1966, Oliver Van Oss confirmed the adage that great headmasters make great appointments. Balkwill was himseif a Carthusian, but Van Oss could have had no stronger supporter as he swept away a litter of dead traditions; Van Oss's belief that education was about opening hearts as much as minds could have had no finer exponent. To the end of his life, Balkwill embodied and enacted a determined idealism.

Born in Cobham in 1940. Philip Balkwill came from a literary and musical family. His father had played a fundamental part in the creation of BBC news broadcasting from Alexandra Palace; his father's mother, who worked for the knew his pupils much better publisher Jonathan Cape, had done much to further the career of H.E. Bates, His mother's father, Hugh de Selincourt, wrote he looked at the floor to think; The Cricket Match (1924) and was married to a concert planist. After attending Charter-

house, Balkwill read English at urally high colouring and mis-Oriel College, Oxford, then, unsure of his intellectual capabilities, taught for five years at a preparatory school, Heathmount. This time away perhaps helped him never to be sentimental about his own schooldays or to use them to judge innovation; indeed, he very rarely referred to them at all. When he returned to Charterhouse, he had gained the confidence to be his own man. Though he did many of the standard schoolmasterly things,



Balkwill: animating

teaching, and teaching of an extraordinary kind.

Reading a poem with him was, simply, to learn to read. Pushing his pupils to think about every word, its meaning and its mances, he brought even 13-year-olds to the point at which a poem as tough as Empson's "Missing Dates" suddenly became transparent. He then stood back. As George Steiner says, the classic text is one which reads us; again and again, Balkwill allowed his pupils to feel themselves being read by their texts with no mediation or direction from his vigorous personality.

Balkwill achieved this not only with his favourite Hardy, with Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Coleridge, Larkin, Heaney and, memorably, the American Buddhist Gary Snyder, but with Virgil, His teaching of Latin made even the most reluctant understand that Virgil had been a man putting one word after another, choosing one in preference to another, in the pursuit of clarity of vision. Virgil became, as in few class-

rooms, a dynamic presence. One effect of his ability to withdraw himself was that he than they knew him, an unusual position for any teacher to be in. Leaning slightly forward, although he put on weight in later life, the combined effect of hair which had greyed early, natchievous eyes was animated and animating.

It was obvious, of course, that he was not always an easy man; he was capable of both anger and bloody-mindedness. He did not always, as they say, bear fools gladly. Equally, he was capable of startling insight and kindness. So far as he subscribed to any philosophy - he had no interest in politics - it was to a Forsterian liberalism of the most trenchant kind. This implied an absolute respect for leading expeditions and so others as individuals, together forth, and was to be a success- with a hatred of cruelty, an ir-Who you?" He was not inter-! ful housemaster, his voc- reverent sense of humour and

He loathed feeling that he ought to lock his front door, because it diminished the joy of life. That joy, expressed in his love of his family, of literature, of mushrooms, of music, of cooking, of "ludicrously cheap" (ruinously expensive) wines, of railways, was the greatest gift he

The utterly uncomplaining courage and faith with which he endured cancer for the last 18 months of his life were of a piece with his uncompromising generosity as a teacher and as a

- Lachlan Mackinnon

# **Nancy Balfour**



'Gnasher': Balfour loved a

good argument

Nancy Balfour, journalist and arts administrator; born 17 May 1911; staff, BBC North rerican Service 1945-48: staff, Economist 1948-72, Assistant Editor with responsibility for American Survey 1954-72; OBE 1965; Honorary Treasurer, Contemporary Art Society 1971-76, Chairman 1976-82, sident 1984-97: Vice-Chairman, Crafts Council 1983-85; died 29 August 1997.

Nancy Balfour devoted her professional life to the Economist; she was deeply involved in its post-war innovative and broadly based analysis of social as well as economic affairs. Her fine appreciation of cultural policy issucs internationally was also reflected in the magazine's

Conventional as she was in her appearance - that of an educated spinster, when the term

way of describing the highflying female achiever - it was perhaps a surprise to some that her profound pleasure was to apply her substantial pragmatic and managerial skills in the creative service of the contemporary art world.

Of American descent, British residence, and independent means, she listed her recreations as "sightseeing, ancient and modern; visiting living artists". She retired a few years early from her prominent but anonymous position as the editor of the American section of the Economist to work as a full-time volunteer in the arts, notably as treasurer first, then chairman, of the Contemporary Art Society. The Contemporary Art So-

ciety was initiated in 1910 by leading figures such as the Bloomsbury artist and critic Roger Fry, Lady Ottoline Mor-

spinster was often a short-hand been to buy contemporary art outright for presentation to public museums and galleries. Under Nancy Balfour's guid-

ance, its finances stabilised; the

CAS initiated a programme of disinterested advice for corporations making modern and contemporary collections; it pioneered cultural travel, and set up much of the pattern of events for members we now take for granted in the numerous Friends organisations throughout the country. She accomplished her self-imposed mission with persistent energy, taking everyone to task; she was not above going disapprovingly through the desk drawers of her CAS administrator. Her nickname, partly due to her short stature and her habit of taking verbal nips at her colleagues and

associates, was "Gnasher". Balfour loved a good argument; when fellow guests took rell, and others; its purpose has each other to pieces over some

basked in the verbal fireworks. She enjoyed telling people what she thought they ought to do to further the causes nearest her heart; but she appreciated debate, discussion

and disagreement. For her 70th birthday, artists she had supported and befriended produced a wonderful book of original drawings; the CAS masterminded an 80th birthday party at the Tate, amonest the earliest beneficiaries of CAS largesse; and her 85th was a major art-world turn-out at the Serpentine. She tirelessly introduced

people of like interests to each other, and consciously linked the cultures of the United States and Britain. After her retirement from both the Economist and the CAS, she spent a year at the Kennedy Centre

Nancy Balfour lived in an

point or other at her parties, she ample flat in Eaton Square, tumes from a royal couturier, and where her extensive collection of contemporary art, almost exclusively British, was displayed in a domestic context. Most pieces were on a relatively small scale, and she delighted in purchasing the new and upcoming as well as 20th-century classics from Henry Moore to Nicholas Pope. She travelled extensively, and knew private collections and collectors throughout the West, as well as visiting the widest range of public collections.

Until her last months she was undeterred from visiting the most obscure and inaccessible exhibitions and artists' studios, often pressing friends into chauffeuring duties; she never drove, and enjoyed remarkable and robust good health; disliking the country, she was an indefatigable city walker. She was always carefully dressed in beautifully made bespoke cos-

until the end of her life her hair was tinted a gentle bronze gold. Plain in looks, she attributed

her originality and idiosyncrasy to what had obviously been an early childhood experience of difference: her mother held strong views as to dress, and the young Nancy wore socks of a different colour to those of all the other girls in her school. This early branding may explain the impulse behind her commitment to what was once the unfashionable side of the art world.

She was a devoted undergraduate at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, in the 1930s, and remained involved with and generous to her old college, heading its old girls' association for many years.

Spirited, cantankerous, Nancy Balfour was a bridge between private and public support of both the contemporary fine and applied arts. Dedicated to

tions of private support, she was a missionary, encouraging the Economist itself to build an art collection and to use the terraces and foyer of its Smithsondesigned building for contemporary exhibitions, and she was a tenacious supporter of public art partiv through her work for the Public Art Development Trust (as trustee, 1983-91).

the most practical manifesta-

Although she was on many committees, Balfour's contributions in public were often muted; behind the scenes she was indefatigable, and her own trust gave quiet and unpublicised support. Her ferocious intelligence and frank, sometimes even hectoring conversation, were a combination that could be daunting, but she had a wide and varied circle of friends, and was a support and inspiration throughout the art world and beyond. Marina Vaizev

**ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS** 

The Princess Royal, President, the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, visits

the Coventry Carers Centre, City Ar-

cade, Coventry, West Midlands; opens new Tenby Industries Limited Head-

DHALIWAL: To Drs J.S. and R.D.K. Driadawal,2 to Drs J.S. and R.D.K. Dhaliwal of Walsall, a son, Harkeret Deep Singh Dhaliwal, born 10.997, weight 7th 302. Grandson for Mr and Mrs G. Singh and Mr and Mrs M.S. Uppal. Nephew for Mr H.D.S. Uppal and Mr J.B. Singh.

#### DEATHS

WHITE: Peter (architect), died 12 September 1997 in Creydon, aged to. Lowing husband of Renkie, tather to Julie, father-ta-law to Ken and grandfather to Peter and Andrea. He will be greatly missed, Funeral service will take place at 3 pan on 22 September at Creydon Crematopaum.

IN MEMORIAM SMITH: Exclys. 1916-1997. In loving namory of our most precious and de-wited soler Evelyn, died 24 August 1997. Walking through life with you, dear Eve.

# BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

has been a neaturn expendence—you have always made it to. We thank God for the privilege of having been your nothers. We will never forget you. God bless, kwe Jack and Dave. XX.

MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo-rial services, Wedding samiversuries, In rial services, Wedding anniversal as an Memorian's should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Camado Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephonoet to 9171-293 2011 or Based to 9171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

#### Forthcoming marriages Mr P. N. Denison

and Miss V. L. A. Wood The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Denison, of Marlow, Bucking-hamshire, and Victoria, second daughter of Professor and Mrs Christopher Wood, of Friern Barnet.

#### Birthdays

Professor Sir Donald Acheson, former Chief Medical Officer, Departments of Health and Social Security, 71; Miss Anne Bancroft, actress, 66; The Right Rev Timothy Bavin, former Bishop of Portsmouth, 62; Mr David Bintley, choreographer, 40;

Professor Alec Broers, Vice-President, Cambridge University, 59; Mr Russell Brown MP, 46; Marshal of the RAF Lord Craig of Radley, 68; Mr Donald Cruickshank, Director-General, Oftel, 55; General Sir Kenneth Darling, former Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces, Northern Europe, 88; Miss Jennifer Dickson. artist and photographer, 61; Sir Desmond Fennell, former High Court judge, 64; Mr Gwyn Francis, former Director-General, the Forestry Commission, 67: Sir Richard Gaskell, former President, Law Society, 61; Professor Sir John Hale, his-torian, 74; Sir Desmond Heap, solicitor and authority on Plans solicitor and authority on Planning Law, 90; Miss Angela Heylin, chair-man, Charles Barker, 54; Mr Domon Hill, racing driver, 37; Mr Michael Jack MP, 51; Miss Tessa Jowell MP, Minister for Public Health, 50; Mr

Desmond Lynam, journalist and broadcaster, 55; Mr Roddy Mc-Dowell, film actor, 69; Mr Reginald Marsh, actor, 71; Mr Brian Matthew, radio presenter, 69; Mr Stirling Moss, racing driver, 68; Sir Paul Newall, former Lord Mayor of London, 63; Mr Andrew Reed MP, 33; Miss Dinah Sheridan, actress, 77; Miss Mary Stewart (Lady Stewart), historical novelist, 81; Sir Jack Stewart-Clark, MEP, 68; Miss Karen Straker, show-jumper, 33; Miss Helen Vinson, actress, 90; Dr Elizabeth Wilkinson, former Professor of German, University College London, 88.

#### **Anniversaries**

Births: Samuel Prout, water-colour peinter, 1783; Edward William Lane, translator of The Thousand and One Nights, 1801; William Carlos Williams, poet, 1883; Sir Francis Charles Chichester, yachtsman and aviator, 1901; Sir Frederick Ashton, choreographer, 1906. Deaths: Tobias George Smollett, novelist, 1771; Walter Savage Landor, author, 1864; William Heury Fox Talbot, photographic pioneer, 1877; Ethel Mary Dell (Mrs G.T. Savage), romantic novelist, 1939; Katherine Anne Porter, povelist, 1980; Professor Sir Karl Raimund Popper, philosopher, 1994. On this day: Edinburgh was oc-cupled by the Jacobites under the Young Pretender, 1745; an English eccentric announced in a San Francisco newspaper that he had became Norton I, Emperor of America. 1859: the 1st British Airbonne Division landed at Arnhem, Nether-lands, 1944; Estonia, Latvia,

Lithuania, North and South Korea,

the Marshall Islands and Microne-

sia were admitted to the United Nations, 1991. Today is the Feast Day of St Columba of Cordova, St Francis of Camporosso, St Hildegard, St Lambert of Maastricht, St Peter Arbues, St Robert Bellarmine, St Satyrus of Milan, Saints Socrates and Stephen and St Theodora.

#### Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Seurat's Drawings", 1pm; Richard Thomson, "New Heroes for Old: renegotiating reputations and rephrasing the classical in French painting 1884-1895", 6,30pm. Tate Gallery: Michael Ricketts, "Heritage Art? Moore, Sutherland and myths of Englishness in post-war Britain", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum

cil, Lode Lone, Solibull, West Midlands.

Michael Keen, "Jewish Art", 2.30pm.

quarters, Kings Central, Great Kings Street, Newtown, Birmingham; and as President, Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the refurbished office now named "Lavinia Norfolk House", Kenilworth, Warwickshire. The Duchess of Gloncester, Patron, the Army Families Federation, attende the Annual Conference at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Cam-berley, Surrey. The Duke of Kent vis-its Land Rover, and the Central England Training and Enterprise Coun-

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavalry Mounted Reg-iment mounts the Queen's Life Guard

# Wales's past can make a difference to Britain's future

The parallels with Scotland are interest-



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Wales is not a lesser Scotland. Its history, at crucial moments, has been remarkably like Scotland's - the early period of warring and competing tribal kingdoms; the unifying Christianity; the struggle to repel Edward I in his determination to unite the island; the uprising of Owain Glyndŵr, a little like a later version of William Wallace; the revival of romantic literary nationalism in the 19th century; the formation of a nationalist party in the 1920s ... and a devolutionary referendum defeated in 1979, before this year's attempt. One can see why, intoxicated by their decisive victory north of the Border, Scottish and English ministers went to Wales to urge the people there not to be left behind. Even so, this was impertinent. The Welsh debate should have been more distinctive than it has been, and the nature of devolution, if it happens, will be quite other than the project planned for Edinburgh.

We go back to history, because we must.

ing, and numerous, and intricate. Yet at decisive moments, the Weish experience was very different. King Edward won in Wales as he never quite did in Scotland. Though Wales and England were formally fused by the Acts of Union in 1536 and 1543, most of the country had been effectively under English control since 1284. That meant that Wales lost out on the most crucial period of nation-building. Welsh law, for instance, was quite distinct from English law during the medieval period, and in some ways better too - it allowed wives more freedom and was less harsh on the poor. But, unlike Scotland which developed its own legal system for hundreds of years, Welsh law withered and

died. With a longer English border, rela-

tive to its size, Wales was simply impossi-

ble to defend from steady English

pressure. The Scots, from medieval times

until the beginning of the 18th century, de-

veloped their own legal, educational, po-

litical and military infrastructure. The Welsh didn't.

Instead, the nature of Welsh resistance was spiritual and cultural, focused on the traditions of Welsh Christianity and the strength of the Welsh language. Wales developed a nationalism of the spirit, rather

than political distinction. That old Welsh history matters in 1997 for two reasons. First, it explains a lot about the lesser appetite for Welsh independence, and the weaker form of devolution offered. Second, it raises questions about what the proposed Welsh assembly is for. The project in front of the Welsh, should they choose to take the challenge, is not the rebuilding of a national political culture in quite the same way as the Scottish project. It is, rather, to foster and guard the linguistic and cultural specialness of Wales.

Why? Minor languages and small cultures are dying all around the modern world. They get less media attention than

disappearing species, but the rate of attrition caused by globalisation is pretty severe. If the French are worried about the longer term, what chance have the Welsh got? And why should the great swaths of English-speaking southern Welsh, often from English or Scottish immigrant families themselves, care two hoots?

There is an absolute answer, which is simply that small cultures contain reserves of human knowledge and wisdom which the greater cultures crush at their peril. This is not a winner-takes-all Darwinian struggle; all humankind is diminished by the death of slowly-acquired knowledge. This may seem an abstract argument indeed for political change; yet most of us, in some way, respond to it. Few people would deny that most surviving cultures

are worth preserving.

But a more rationalist answer is that in the global market, every corner of the world needs its specialisation, its point of difference to exploit and sell. Wales has

a mix of traditions and skills which is not the same as those in Cornwall, or the Midlands, or Scotland, And a Welsh assembly would prove its utility by stressing. strengthening and marketing those differences to investors and customers outside. In short, if it worked, its effect would be like that of a Welsh cultural ministry and a Weish development agency working together under democratic control. It would not feel like the wide-ranging parliamentary body planned for Scotland; but . Wales doesn't need that or, perhaps, much want it. There is a lesson here for the English regions and Labour nationally, too. Devolution of power in our cutious land is bound to be an asymmetric and ragged happening. Different regions will have different needs and should not be spatchcocked into a one-size-fits-all solution. We celebrate that raggedness. And we hope that, tomorrow, the people of Wales make Britain a little less uniform and a little less predictable.

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056: e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk). E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

# **LETTERS**



Sir: The tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, has led to a ground swell of public support for charities. But will it generate a new public mood towards the giving of time and money to charities and to those they serve in the long term?

Princess Diana's favourite charities will undoubtedly attract more money in support of their work - and rightly so. But what will her legacy be more generally on people's willingness to give? Will it differ between the old and the young? Between some of us and others?

The Memorial Fund, so quickly established in the Princess's name, was able to take appeals first on the Internet and only subsequently through banks and for a long time without the tax gearing. Spontaneity is seldom efficient and despite the fund's best efforts, the early days as seen from the inside were somewhat

Should the Charity Comlessons and procedures of crisis appeals as it did after the Penlee lifeboat disaster? And as they become increasingly international, bow do you set up an efficient global appeal in 24 hours?

More generally, what will be done with the several hundred millions raised in Diana's name? Many good ideas are being generated and the fund's trustees and Gordon Brown are encouraging more. My own idea, like those of others, concerns the "excluded" - her "constituency", in Earl Spencer's memorable words. Each-town-or-county-might have a "People's Trust".

wishing to enlarge and deepen their lives by helping the poor and the excluded in their own areas, could give or become involved through their local People's Trust. MICHAEL BROPHY Chief Executive

Those, like Princess Diana,

Charities Aid Foundation West Malling, Kent

Recycling

Sir: I am glad that Polly Toynbee ("The battle of incinerators vs recyclers", 15 September) has no doubts about the value of recycling. Nor do I.



But first and foremost, we New 'Independent' need to avoid waste where we can. Secondly, we should re-Sir: Thank you for your new cover material or energy from

as much waste as possible to reduce reliance on landfill. The fact that about 85 per cent of household waste takes this route, with about 6 per cent each to recycling and energy recovery, shows how non-existent is the "battle" she describes between the incinerators and the recyclers. Britain has far to go to in-

crease beneficial use of its waste: most successful will be a balanced approach - recycle to a sensible extent and recover energy from the residual wate, as they do in the greener continental countries.

A modern green power station is safe, reduces pollution and in no way conflicts with recycling-RAY PALIN Director, Energy from Waste Association London W2

look. Today is only my second day as an ex-Independent reader returned to the fold. After a long flirtation with the Telegraph, I am desperate for serious, in-depth political comment, free from a gossipy spin. Today's changes are refreshing and much more like The Independent's original spirit. Genuine independence with coverage of all views is surely the paper's strength. I am glad to be back. SARAH EDEN

Sir. Being of a nervous disposition, I read your warning of a changing Independent with some trepidation. This "tougher for journalists and better for readers" concept, although re-

columnists and reporters.

I've staved with The Indeandent since it started when I was in my fifties and remember the short-lived weekly, "for the young and independent", of eight years ago. You still seemed to be looking to this readership and I wondered if I'm now too old for you.

I therefore reached for the telephone to cancel my order but then thought better of it. Tomorrow would do. Well now I have it before me and I think you've pulled another one out of the hat, so will stay and wait for the opinions and the effect it may have on the other broadsheets. Perhaps we may learn what Stephen Glover and Andreas Whittam Smith think you've done to their baby.

ROBERT VINCENT Andover. assuring for myself, had me concerned for the well-being of your

Sir: Having only last week re-quired free pair of spectacles in

turned to The Independent from an increasingly loud broadsheet competitor, may I offer my congratulations on your quieter appearance this morning. As a music teacher I hear society increasingly ff, hence welcome your mp layout. ROGER GARRATT Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicostershire

Sir: Aw, shucks! While I commend your new, clean design, the teaser in vesterday's paper tempted me to hope that the whole Independent would be published in a physically more manageable format: a "tabloid broadsheet". MARK RASMUSSEN London E11

Sir: It is not uncommon to promote a new or changed product with a promotional gift and mine seems to be missing. I have failed to find the remy copy of The Independent to assist me with the reading this morning and I am therefore asking if you would forward them to me at your earliest convenience.

T D M RAYMENT London-SW13-

Sir: I can't imagine that Carol Twombly, "one of the world's leading print designers", will be pleased with the use you have made of her creation. The broadsheet is not suitable for fine light type with few crossheads. It dazzles and its minimalist body fades into the white acres. However compelling the substance, what is its use if we cannot read it. ASPHODEL P LONG Brighton, East Sussex

Sir: It's changed. I now have. Brilliant. TOM DAVIS Altrincham.

Cheshire

liament - the "Barebones" - but when it quickly became clear that it was not going to vote him into power, he dismissed it too, and ordered his council of officers to elect him Lord Protector.

Hardly an auspicious start to our first and only republic. Like the Germans in the early Thirties to whom Donald Foreman (Letters, 10 September) refers. Parliament found they could not get the genie back into the bottle.

GORDON MEDCALF Whitchurch, Hampshire

Sir. Donald Foreman, Secretary of the Constitutional Monarchy Association, has obviously forgotten that Benito Mussolini was appointed prime minister of Italy by King Victor Emmanuel III in 1922 without any democratic process. It took the Eighth Army to remove him. The Rev THOMAS COOPER Cardiff

## Scottish poll

Sir. Douglas Fraser writes (report, 13 September) that "the surpassed the expectations of politicians and pollsters. Politicians maybe; pollsters? Not so.

The MORI Scotland survey for Scottish Television, released last week, reported on the first question 75 per cent "yes" (it was 74.3 per cent); on the second question 61 per cent "yes" (it was 63.5 per cent). Which pollsters did he have in mind? Clearly not MORI Scotland. BRIAN GOSSCHALK

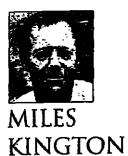
Managing Director, MORI---London SE1

Sir: Is there any reason why England cannot consider reintroducing Daylight Saving now, since it was only the Scots who objected? LORRAINE OWENS London NW6

# Muted horns

Sir: When the audience have finished with their Radio 3 cough sweets (Seen and Heard, 16 September), may I suggest the paper bag is recycled as a DIY mute on those parp-parp car horn blowers who are a good deal more irritating than the occasional cough and who, annually, ruin the Last Night of HOWARD INGRAM

# How to commit a howler in style: ask millions of viewers to Call your Bluff



TV and radio to get their questions and answers in a twist, but that I had had personal experience of only two of these in my own life, so I appealed to readers to supply me with examples which they themselves had

I was not disappointed. Several examples have flooded in, including one corker of a mistake from Call My Bluff which is so good I shall have to leave

it to last. My first informant was not a reader at all, but the letters editor of this very paper, who rang me to say that he had once seen an edition of University Challenge in which Bamber Gascoigne was overruled on air.

In a recent piece I said that it One team was being asked a was not unknown for quizzes on question about architecture; he couldn't remember what the question was, but he did know that the expected answer was "Norman", so the question must have been something like: "In what style is such-and-such a building built?"

The answer given was "Romanesque". "I'm sorry, it's Norman," said Gascoigne.

At which point the other team interceded and said rather like a batsman admitting that he had, in fact, touched the ball - that they thought that was near enough, and that Norman and Romanesque styles did overlap enough for the answer to stand. So Gascoigne gave way and let it stand.

that if the quizmaster has no flexibility, only a one-word answer, he is in no position even to defend himself. This was the problem, according to a reader called John Major (no relation), with Top Of The Form, which he describes as "that ghastly old Home Service programme ... I can't remember specific cases but there were clangers nearly every week. Often the kids interpreted the wording of the questions far better than the question setters, and when the problems were vaguely scientific or engineering oriented (I say 'vaguely' the Beeb seems to use only arts graduates) the answers were just plain wrong."

Scientific ignorance is cer-

The trouble, obviously, is tainly behind the plaint on a card I received anonymously from Stockport, which said, "Dear Miles, The saddest case of mispronunciation that I have ever heard was during a TV debate on the closure of iron and steelmaking in Cumbria. The BSC representative said that it was impossible to use local ore as it was 'low fee', and the union representative never asked him to elaborate on this. Clearly neither of them knew what they were talking about - the chemical symbol for iron is 'Fe', but this is always spoken as 'irou'. Both sides were just playing at it, for appearance's sake." Anne Lewis, of London

SW15, writes to say that although she cannot remember which show it was on, she does

remember a man being asked than the pen'. And won." for the name of the German writer who wrote Faust. She remembers the man giving the correct answer, Goethe, pronounced "Gerta". She also remembers the quizmaster saying

"No, it was Go-eath ...". Clive Exton writes feelingly with this memory, "One quiz gaffe I remember particularly well - because it seemed to encapsulate neatly the British attitude to writers - happened in Sunday Night at the London Palladium. The climax of the show was a competition in which a member of the audience had to arrange a number of words into a well-known phrase or saying. On the Sunday night I remember, the contestant ended

up with 'The sword is mightier

And finally to the wonderful cock-up on a recent Call My Bluff. Over, with gratitude, to Greensmith John

Britain's republic

Sir: To demonstrate that a re-

public needs no figurehead,

Spencer Hagard (Letters, 12

September) cites the first time

Britain was a republic, from

1649 to 1653. It is not a choice

which helps his argument, as

during that long period Parlia-

ment did nothing else of note

but to send Cromwell (of whom

they were afraid) and his army

(ditto) on infamous punitive

missions to Ireland and to Scot-

land, the adverse consequences of which have been reflected in

every news bulletin of the last

As well for them that they

kept Cromwell abroad, because

when he did return he at once

took over Parliament personal-

ly. With armed soldiers he en-

tered the House, arrested the

Speaker, dissolved the Parlia-

ment, locked the doors and

pocketed the keys. Shortly af-

terwards he formed a new par-

seven days.

Huddersfield ... "This happened about three months ago, when the correct definition of 'Knorcock' was given as an Old English word for 'next'. Having studied Anglo-Saxon in the past, I couldn't believe this; and my suspicions were confirmed when I looked it up in the OED in the library.

Sure enough, it said 'Knorcock - anglicised form of 'next'. But 'next' means, refer to the next word listed in the dictionary, which was 'Knorhan', the name of a South African species of

"In other words, 'Knorcock'

is the English name for 'Knorhan'."

100 · 100 ·

Clearly, some poor innocent researcher had copied down "Anglicised version of next", and although a moment's thought would have told him or her that there is no way that the word 'knorcock" could be any version of the word "next", he or she had clearly not bothered with a moment's thought and nobody had checked this odd definition. Were it not for a sharp-eyed Mr Greensmith nobody would be any the wiser. Indeed, this may be the first intimation that the Call My Bluff people have had that they did commit a howler.

Ah, it wouldn't have happened in the old Muir and Campbell days.

# Have you heard the one about the oriental fantasy?

The Booker shortlist, announced this week is, in many ways, nothing but the same old story, the one about the Irishman, the Indian and the Antipodean, who seem peren-nially to be among the favoured few. So this year the likes of Roddy Doyle, Salman Rushdie and David Malouf step aside for fresh ranks of compatriots, namely Bernard MacLaverry, Arundhati Roy and Madeleine St John. The space for the required up-andcoming first novelist is filled by Mick Jackson. And there are a couple of places for solid writers with a track record, Jim Crace and Tim Parks, who - on the Buggins' turn principle - deserve a little of the limelight. In short, there is nothing revolutionary about this year's Booker judges.

Yet the choices are refreshing at least in ignoring much of the hype in the book trade BOOKER about authors deemed a cert for the list. The fact that two out of the five judges - Jan Dalley and Jason Cowley - are long-standing literary journalists, means that the panel will have taken a jaundiced view of being bounced into certain choices by the books

One casualty of this scepticism was John Banville, the Irish writer, whose fictionalised story, The Untouchable, based on the life of Anthony Blunt, was bought by Picador for an exorbitant fee and pushed relentlessly by them as a natural for the Booker. The talking-up of Ian McEwan's Enduring Love may also have backfired. It's generally regarded to be a much better book that most published this year, but it is McEwan-by-numbers, running through many of his old riffs. The Booker jury, which includes two senior academics, Gillian Beer (who chairs the jury) and Dan Jacobson, is sufficiently well-read to be familiar with the previous work of wellknown authors. The days when a gullible celebrity, with little literary background, was recruited on to the panel to catch the public eye are long gone.

Not that the panel wants to seem too élitist. The choice of Madeleine St John's The Essence of the Thing is not only a huge surprise. It is also a nod in the direction of popular fiction, a genre which previous juries have stoically ignored. The novel dips into a world that would be familiar to Bridget Jones - of life in west London's Notting Hill and the aftermath of the break-up of a relationship. It centres on the life of Nicola, who is trying to put her life back together after the departure of her lover, Jonathan. The book is hardly ground-breaking in its If this week's shortlist reflects any key ambitions and has been panned by some this printing it is this which which which sales Sales and ics as cliched. Its theme and location have. - Rashdie the Booker with Midnisht's Childre after all, preoccupied writers ranging from Muriel Spark in the Fifties through to Anita Brookner in the Seventies and Eighties.

It is perhaps forgivable that this book should have displaced Jeanette Winterson's widely tipped Gut Symmetries. Winterson breaks so many rules of conventional fiction and is so idiosyncratic in her style that she divides readers sharply between those who love and those who loathe her work. But it is harder to understand how Madeleine St John's ordinariness could have clbowed aside Carol Shields, a first-rate novelist, whose latest work, Larry's Party, has as its central character a forty-something man who is trying to making sense of his life. It demonstrates that Shields, always known for her skill in creating heroines, is just as adept

In one respect, however, the judges have made an indisputably sound choice. The God of Small Things by Arundbati Roy, has. it is true, been hyped at least as much as the output of John Banville and Ian McEwan. Since last year's Frankfurt Book Fair, the manuscript has beralded, amid a great buzz about the discovery of an unknown Indian genius. In this case, the fuss has been wellfounded and been sustained through the en-

suing months. Arundhati Roy, though from a profes-



O'SULLIVAN ON THE IDENTIKIT SHORTLIST

sional background, had until this book no experience of writing and publishing fiction. Her novel was an act of faith. When she wrote it, she gave up working in the film industry to write a book that had no obvious prospects. Yet the novel reveals that this writer, on her debut, has a fully-fledged style and vision. It has the flaws of a first novel, being in places over-written by an author in love with her own stylistic virtuosity. But it

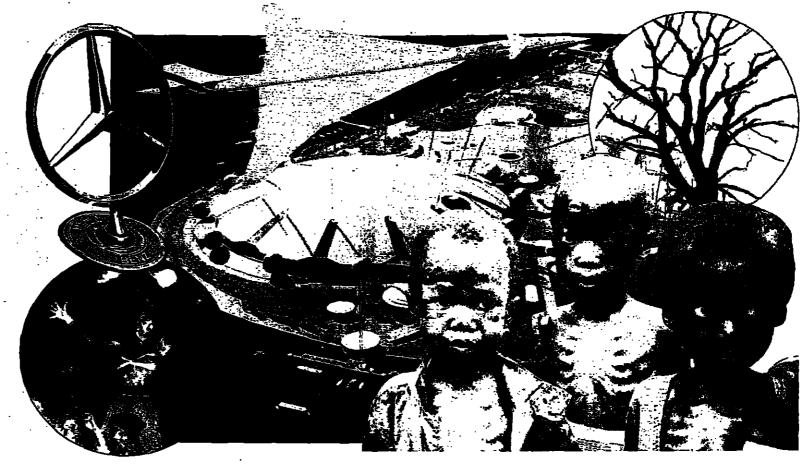
remains deeply moving.

The God of Small Things is also unlike the classic Indian novel in English, which typically appeals to Anglo-Saxon fantasy about an exotic land. Roy has set the novel in the hish landscape of Kerala in south-west India, but she does not pander to traditional orientalism in the way she presents Indian society. There is a distinctive autobiographical tone as she looks at the Syrian Christian community in which she grew up. The story is of a tragic marriage to a Hindu man of low caste outside that community. And so it reflects how her society is racked by conflicts between the energy of modernity and the demands of existing tradition. As the plot unfolds you see these issues played out against a very real, up to date world of bill boards, radio jingles and pop

in 1981, namely that the Booker Prize should be a major showcase for the varieties of English language fiction both within and beyond the British Isles, and not simply in the old metropolitan centres. This attitude acknowledges that the future of the English language is being forged in the Glaswegian dialect of James Kelman's 1994 winner, How Late It Was, How Late and among the Dubliners in Roddy Doyle's Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha (the 1993 winner).

Experimentation with language can be found in Jim Crace's shortlisted Quarantine, which dramatises Jesus's 40 days and nights in the wilderness and attempts to create a language appropriate for first century Judea, without producing a pastiche of the authorised version. Likewise, in The Underground Man. Mick Jackson attempts to get inside the head of an eccentric and possibly demented aristocrat.

Thus, like many Booker shortlists, there is a sense of standard literary English being pulled in many different directions both historically and geographically. But the process of refining and renewing English is most innovative in Anundhati Roy's first novel, which is why this extraordinary writer deserves to win the plaudits and the £20,000 when the judges make their final decision next month.



# If we can't get the show right, how can we sort out the century?

The Millennium Dome is going to happen. Look down from the 50th floor of the Canary Wharf tower (where this newspaper is based) and you can see the outneatly fitting into the curve of the Thames. It will be an interesting, special building, as one might expect from Richard Rogers, now Lord Rogers, architect of the Pompidou Centre in Paris and the Lloyd's

Building in London. But what will happen inside it? We know that people such as the impresario, Sir Cameron Mackintosh, are involved in what might be called the "spectacular" element of what happens in a central stadium in the middle of the drum, and that point, wiggles through the there will be other elements in Pacific, an awkward spot for a the denginest around it. But show. London itself is objecmore important what they don't yet know - is what will be the Big Idea to underlie it.

Visually, both the physical surroundings and the show inside will be wonderful. No doubt about that. Get worldclass talent to execute an idea and they will do it wonderfully, stunningly well. But without the intellectual give of that central idea all that will result is a dazzling, empty, and ultimately useless, mask.

We had been writing along these lines in this paper, and to his considerable credit Peter Mandelson, the minister who has to make the dome work. suggested that if we were so interested we might haul in some people to a meeting where we might hunt the Big Idea. He would start it off. And so last week a group of the most thoughtful people we could collect from all walks of British life found themselves peering across the river from the top of the tower to the site of the

As you might expect not one idea but a host of them emerged - far too many in fact. But there were some common themes which made us realise, side rim of the foundations, I think, that getting this one right was important not just for the Government's reputation, not just for this country, but, if it doesn't sound too portentous, for the world.

To explain: stand back for a moment and ask what is special about this project. For a start the dome is within a couple of hundred yards of the Greenwich meridian, the single most important focal point in time for the start of the next millennium - the International Date Line, the other potential start point on earth: the most visited city on earth; the one with the largest number of international air passengers and with the most international phone calls; the one which manages the largest amount of cross-border equities and has the largest foreign exchange market - and

If it is a good place, it is also a good time - not just because of the resonant number of this 2,000th Christian anniversary. It is a good time because at this moment the world, Christian and otherwise, is going through arguably the most rapid period of change in human history. This decade human population is growing faster than at any past period and maybe any future one. Economic power is shifting from the old developed world to the new developing one. There are profound concerns about the pressure that population and economic growth put on the planet's resources. Technology, particularly in communications, is



HAMISH **MCRAE** ON THE IDEAL DOME EXHIBITION

racing forward so that distance. for many activities, has virtually than ever before, but that wealth carries high costs social and environmental which rightly trouble us.

So if a single big idea emerged it was that this is a special time for humankind - and that one task of the millennium event is to help explain why this particular time is so interesting, so important for the future of our species, so different from any other past period of our history. Explain, yes,

but also entertain and enthuse. So the Millennium Experience has to include an element of futuristic technology, but not the "old" visions of this space travel and the like. The new technologies which will change the world during the next century will include biotechnology: issues like how the mind works or how drugs change people's behaviour. Do rave-goers understand how recreational drugs work and why they take them?

The social effects of technical change are often even

more important than the changes themselves. Look at the way the invention of the car has changed our shopping habits, or the television our leisure time. Just as the inventors of those technologies had no perception of their social impact, so the inventors of the Internet can have little idea of the way it (and its successors) will change the way we will live in another generation's time.

The show will have to acknowledge the damage done to the environment, but it will need to explain that not all environmental change is catastrophic and that in some areas progress has been made in fixing problems. Tiny example: this year sea bass, that fashionable fish of stylish restaurants, have been caught ing past the mill site: technology has cleaned up

The dome will also have to show awareness of the astonishing internationalisation that has taken place in the world. Ideas now whiz round in milliseconds; and people whiz round pretty fast too. Divisions have become vertical (between different types of people in one country) rather than horizontal (between similar people in different countries). Above all, the experience

ought to have a moral or even

a spiritual dimension. It comes ill from journalists or politicians who vie for the bottom of the league table of public esteem, but clearly people are hunting for something that goes beyond materialism and technology. Yes, the Millennium Show has to be fun; it must not be too earnest, too sure it is right. And of course it has to be for all people, young and old, and rich and poor, Christians and non-Christians, Britons and non-Britons, all races, all beliefs, But also it has to include an element of morality: why are we here and what are our responsibilities to future generations?

And that surely is the Big Idea. The future will have many features about which we should be truly concerned. There will be billions more of us sharing this globe. There will be enronmental degradation. There will be grave social problems within otherwise rich countries. But on the other hand there are wonderful opportunities brought about by technology, better education, better communications and by the fact that the entire world is operating on a common economic system. What we must do now is create a future which is more balanced and more humane. If we can do that in the dome then we will have made a really useful start.

# The fog was down. Lee talked about his iddy-biddy home



**IOURNEY** MATT BRACE PART TWO

2am in Dresbach Slough, on the Upper Mississippi, riding the towboat JoAnne Steebauer, river pilot Mike Pope at the helm. Thick fog had forced us to slow the 3,200bp engines to a crawl. Ahead of us the three giant anhydrous ammonia barges we were pushing were hardly visible even with our spotlights full on. If there was a Mississippi moon shining on me I couldn't see it.

Mike knew the fog would be down until dawn. It had been that way both nights since the JoAnne puffed out of St Paul, Minnesota, two days ago with Captain Al Hicks, Mike, three bargemen, two deckhands, one cook and an English trainee boatman on board. I had got used to sitting out my 11pm to 5am watch enveloped in cold, damp Mississippi mist.

On our first night out from St Paul, Mike had been willing to keep the boat out in the 9ft channel, using the reverse engines to hold her gently against the current. But tonight he wanted her tied off on the bank to give the horsepower a rest. Bargeman Lee Courville (the Crazy Cajun) from the

Louisiana bayous, Deckhand Steve Shiver (called Screech for reasons no one on board could remember) and I were shoulder-to-shoulder in the wheelhouse behind Mike, waiting for orders.

The fog continued to tumble down the bluffs along the shore and visibility worsened. "That's it," said Mike, "Ain't no way I'm running in this shit no more. It's time guys."

Outside, the night was all around us. A blue heron swooped out of the mist past my head, the cicadas hissed from the grass and river vapours clung to my face. Lee led me down the wheel-

house steps and we hopped on to the first barge, picking our way along its edge. Fifteen feet below me swirled the black, silent waters of the Mississippi. We could not have been more than 20ft from the shore but the river was dangerously deep and the current strong.

I remembered Mike's first lesson on how to be a riverboat pilot. "The current comes out from the bank into the river. Don't forget that. Your lead barge will get pushed out if you

get too close," I could see the current running offshore as we stood on the barge rail, huddled in our lifejackets. The JoAnne's engines

roared as she tried to get close enough for me to leap off and tie her up but the river was teasing her. We did get in close enough once. Lee and I were at the very nose of the lead barge, caught by the spotlight. As we slid up the bank we were engulfed by foliage. I was ready to leap ashore and choke a rope (catch a line) from Lee but over the walkie-talkies Mike told us to wait awhile to see if she would hold on her own.

Lee and I fell to talking. He told me about his home town and seemed glad of the chance to remind himself of it.

"It's just an iddy-biddy li"l tles. And good cooking!"

place, bout 2,000 people. Kinder's its name. It's real nice. That's real Cajun Country out there. We're country people, most of us never been to a city. I ain't even been to New Orleans and that's just up the road. I like the outdoors, crabbing, fishing, hunting tor-

His great-grandfather had

migrated from Nova Scotia, so Lee grew up speaking equal amounts of Cainn French and English. "But now the young 'uns they don't want to learn Cajum French so it's going to die out, I reckon in the next 50 vears or so." It was time to tie-off but to

which tree? At last I could be of some use as the JoAnne's official arborealist. Hanging on to each other's lifejackets, Lee and I squinted at the options. A hazel. Too weak. A double-trunked elm. Too far from the shore. An oak. Perfect, apart from the fact that we had just dug out 2ft of bank from under it when we hit the shore, exposing its roots and rendering it much less stable.

It wasn't going to work. Mike would have another night holding her steady in mid-river. I walked back along the barges, choking on the ammonia stench and sheepishly hid in the galley. All I had to do was tie-off and I couldn't even manage that. I immersed myself in the

charts of the Upper Mississippi. learning the names of each stretch of river. Dresbach Slough was at Mile 704, mea-

sured from the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers just north of St Louis. Below us eight miles through the fog was Broken Arrow Slough, then Diamond Jo Daymark, Coon, Deadman and Catfish Sloughs, Sweezy Island, Hurricane Chute, Steamboat Hollow, Fever River, and Hanging Dog Bluff. It was as if Mark Twain had named them.

As I sank into my bunk at

dawn I counted the miles I had covered so far - roughly 600. By the time we dock at Dubuque lowa, in another 36 hours, that will have increased to more than 700. I suddenly realised I was way behind schedule. I was due to meet the mayor of Greenville, Mississippi, on September 19 to attend the big Blues festival there as his guest. Missing it would be snubbing Southern hospitality - it's just not done. But Dubuque, lowa, to Greenville, Mississippi, in a week? The success of the journey was now in the hands of the towboat pilots and reliant on the fickle moods of the river. I prayed it would treat me well.

Part 3 appears next Wednesday.



# John's body

John is one of over 11 million men, women and children in Britain today who know just how painful arthritis and rheumatism can be.

The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council is the only major UK charity financing medical research into all aspects of arthritis and rheumatic disease in Britain today.

We rely on donations to fund our many research projects. Can you help us today?
Please send me: Your FREE Legacy Information Pack
Address:
l enclose: Si Si St7 St9 my gift of S Please send an Information Pack
To: The Arthritis & Rheumatism Council, FREEPOST, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 7BR.  Arthritis & Rheumatism Council for Research - finding the cure
YOUNG OR OLD - THE PAIN'S THE SAME

# Tesco raises stakes in supermarket banking battle

Tesco yesterday increased the pressure on the high street banks with the launch of a high-interest account which will allow shoppers to make transactions at the check-out. It is also gaining market share in groceries and fighting selective distribution agreements which prevent it from selling cut price jeans, branded sportswear and perfumes. Nigel Cope, City Correspondent, reports on the growing dominance of the big supermarkets.

Tesco's new instant access savings account, launched by the supermarket group yesterday, will offer an interest rate of 6.5 per cent on deposits of over £1. Though the rate exactly matches that offered by Sainsbury's Bank, which was launched earlier this year, Tesco denied it was escalating the supermarket battle with its arch-rival.

The company said that though it competed head-to-head with Sainsbury's and other supermarkets in the grocery arena. its real target in financial services is the high street banks. "It isn't about Tesco versus Sainsbury's here," said Tesco deputy chairman David Reid. "It is about the wider market and how a simple product offer can give customers good service."

Tesco's bank account will enable customers to pay in or withdraw cash at checkouts, or at branches of Royal Bank of Scotland. Tesco's joint venture partner in financial services. Mr Reid admitted that

check-outs but said this would be monitored carefully. The bulk of transactions are expected to be conducted over the phone.

The launch is the latest in a series of moves into financial services by the supermarket giants. Tesco already operates a ClubCard Plus budget account which has 200,000 customers. Sainsbury's Bank, launched in the spring, now has 500,000 customers for its range of financial products which include a telephone based bank account, two credit cards and a range of mortgages. Safeway would not disclose how many customers had taken up the offer of its ABC bonus account which also pays 5 per cent interest. Tesco is considering further expansion into financial services with mortgages a possibility.

Banking analysts said the savings rates offered by the supermarkets groups were clearly better than those offered by rival banks but that the impact on the banking sector was difficult to assess. "There is clearly a market here for the supermarkets," one said. "What is not clear is how large that market is and how committed to it the supermarkets are. For example, how long will these interest rates be offered? It is easy to offer high interest rates on balances when your balances are low."

Tesco's announcement came as the group announced a 9 per cent increase in first half profits to £350m. In addition to its expansion into financial services, Tesco said it was keen to expand its non-food interests in areas such as newspapers and magazines, books and videos and health and beauty products.

Tesco chief executive Terry Leahy said Tesco was keen to stock products such as fragrances and branded sportswear if it could secure supplies. Tesco has already ofthe service could lead to longer queues at fered a limited stock of cut-priced Levi



Terry Leahy, chief executive of Tesco (right), visiting the Brent Cross branch in Hendon, north London

against the wishes of the manufacturers who said supermarkets are not the right environment for their products.

Mr Leahy said Tesco would attack selective distribution agreements and had made submissions to the UK government and the European Commission to outlaw

jeans and Adidas sportswear. This was the practice. "It is wrong that there are se-per cent. Tesco will expand further in cenlective agreements which seem to be aimed at keeping prices high," he said.

In the six months to 9 August Tesco recorded a 15.2 per cent increase in group sales to £7.7bn. Same store sales increased by 6 per cent pushing Tesco's market share in UK groceries from 14.2 per cent to 15 an extension to the trial shortly.

tral Europe and recently sent a marketing team to China to explore the possibility of opening stores there.

The home delivery trial which enables customers to order via the Internet is going well in six areas. Tesco will announce

The Irish stores acquired for £641m from Associated British Foods in May contributed £14m to operating profits in the 14 weeks since the deal.

The dividend was increased by 9 per cent Tesco shares closed 5.5p higher at

# **BG** courts controversy with £1.3bn buy-back

BG, the former British Gas, will today end weeks of speculation by unveiling plans to spend more than £I bn on share buybacks. The company will also reveal a strong improvement in earnings in its half yearly results.

But as Chris Godsmark, Business Correspondent, reports, the buybacks will prove controversial after the company's unsuccessful campaign to halt savage cuts in its pipeline charges.

Executives from BG first floated the idea of share buy-backs to analysts in June, following the defeat over price controls at its main gas pipeline business, Transco. Today David Varney, chief executive, is expected to announce a buyback costing around £1.3bn as part of a complex restructuring of BG's share capital, mirroring recent schemes by Southern Electric and Yorkshire Water.

Though BG shareholders will welcome the buyback, which would need to be endorsed at an extraordinary general meeting, consumers are likely to be surprised by the decision. Only last year the old British Gas attacked the new price control plans by Ofgas, the industry watchdog, as the "biggest smash and grab raid ever." Executives had repeatedly warned safety could be put at risk by the loss of £650m of annual revenues, translating into a reduction of about £15 off average domestic bills.

Speculation about possible buybacks has already fuelled a meteoric rise in BG's share price since Febu-

regulator, is being forced to investigate and then report back publicly on com-

plaints that British Gas's latest round of

price cuts discriminate unfairly against

yesterday submitted a formal "referral"

to Ofgas under the Gas Act, arguing that

Ms Spottiswoode had broken her own

rules in allowing British Gas to dis-

The price cuts, due to be introduced

in January next year, will be worth £28 a

year to the average consumer or 9 per cent

off the standard domestic bill. However,

they will only be available to 16 million

customers who either pay by direct debit

or settle their bills within 10 days.

Customers on pre-payment meters or

budget plans have been excluded on the

grounds that they are more expensive to

service and unprofitable for British Gas.

In its submission. Sue Slipman,

criminate in this way.

The Gas Consumers' Council

3 million low-income households.

rary's landmark demerger, when the gas supply business hived off into a separate quoted company. Centrica. BG shares have doubled from a low point this year of 134p. They closed yesterday 1.5p lower at 268.5p, with dealers blaming profit taking ahead of today's interim results.

Mr Varney will justify the buybacks as part of a move to raise BG's borrowings to boost its balance sheet, a strategy adopted by many other utilities. The group's debt was already set to rise to £3.9bn by the end of this year, partly reflecting the £514m provision which will also be announced today to cover the windfall

Though BG's gearing, the ratio of debt to equity, would soar to almost 200 per cent after the buyback, analysts said the company's pipeline revenues could comfortably cover the interest bill. Simon Flowers, head of utility research at Nat West Securities, predicted further buybacks could follow. "In terms of magnitude this would be very sensible. It will leave flexibility for more to come."

The buyback is likely to involve BG replacing its existing shares with two new classes of equity, some of which would then be purchased by the company. Such schemes, which reduce the amount of shares in circulation, have tax advantages over conventional buybacks.

BG will also reveal underlying aftertax profits of some £480m for the first six months of the year in another sign of the group's improving fortunes. The results will be boosted by a turnaround in the exploration and production business, which looks set to move from a £68m loss into a £112m profit.

However, BG is expected to make exceptional charges of around £100m to cover 2,500 job cuts recently announced at Transco.

tomers are being treated unfairly because

the price cuts stem from reductions in

the charges that can be levied by Transco,

the transportation arm of BG. The GCC

says that Ofgas ruled in 1995 that

Transco's charges were "joint costs"

shared by all classes of consumer and

therefore the reductions in the charges

John Battle, the industry minister, has

also made known his unhappiness at the

way price cuts are being introduced and

is meeting Roy Gardner, chief executive

of Centrica, the trading arm of British Gas,

next Wednesday to discuss the matter.

investigating the issue further. But the

GCC's intervention will force it to conduct

an examination. The investigation is like-

ly to take at least three months which may

mean that price cuts have been introduced

before Ofgas has published its findings.

- Michael Harrison

Ofgas had said it had no intention of

should be applied across the board.

**Spottiswoode forced to** 

Clare Spottiswoode, the gas industry director of the GCC, says these cus-

investigate price cuts

# Fall in government borrowing raises pay fears

The Government's finances were in such unexpectedly good shape last month that many City experts are saying the Iron Chancellor will keep borrowing below his £11 bn target this year. Diane Coyle, Economics Editor, assesses if the figures mean the government will have some extra leeway on public sector pay.

New figures yesterday showed that the shortfall between government spending and

revenue was £1.1bn in August, following a surprisingly big surplus in July. The Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) in the first five months of the financial year has added up to £6.6bn excluding one-off privatisation proceeds, less than half the total at the same stage last year.

Economists in the City, who scrutinise the PSBR closely for clues about how much money the government will need to raise by selling gilts to the financial markets, described the August figure as "spectacularly good".

Part of the explanation was the receipt of an extra £1.4bn in tobacco duties last month, simply reflecting the timing of the

July Budget. However, thanks to the buoyant economy, total tax receipts so far this financial year have been nearly 8 per cent higher than last year.

More significant is the fact that expenditure by government departments is £1.4bn lower than at the same stage last year. If spending continued to fall at the same pace, this year's PSBR would be closer to £4bn than the £11bn target.

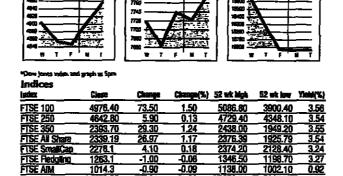
This is unlikely as one-offs such as the sale of the MoD married quarters and the Housing Corporation's loan book have shrunk expenditure artificially this year. Even so, a combination of falling unemployment and tight control mean

government spending might undershoot the plans published in the Budget. Kevin Darlington, an economist at in-

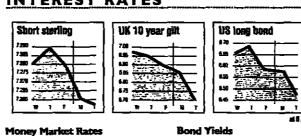
vestment bank ABN-Amro, agreed. "It will still be a hell of a task to keep departmental spending down like this. But there could be extra in the kitty for next year's public sector pay bill."

On the day when Alistair Darling. chief secretary to the Treasury, insisted the government would be "fair but firm" on pay claims, the borrowing figures suggested that it might be in a position to offer more to high-profile groups like nurses, doctors and teachers, according to analysts.

#### STOCK MARKETS



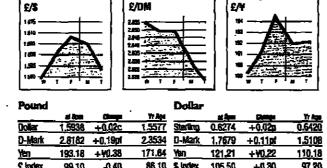
# **INTEREST RATES**



# MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Price (p)	Chy (s)	% Chyp	Falls	Price (p)	(1kg (p)	10
Rexam PLC	327.50	17.00	5.48	Thom PLC	137.50	-14.00	-9.2
Brit Aerospace	1651.50	82.00	5.22	BTG PLC	707.50	-47.50	-6,2
Lucasvarity PLC	223.00	10.50	4.94	Lonrho PLC	105.00	-6.00	-5.4
Premier Oil PLC	45.50	1.75	4.00	Paton PLC	428.50	-16.50	-3.7

#### CURRENCIES



# OTHER INDICATORS

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Brent Cil (S)	18.25	0.15	20.65	GDP	112.80	3.40	109.1	24-0ct
Gald (S)	320.55	-3.10	383.35	RPI	158.50	3.5	158.14	7-0d
Silver (S)	4.71	-0.07	5.05	Base i		7.00	5.75	
www.blc	omber	g.com			sou	rçe: E	loon	berg

# Malaysia renews battle against speculators

The South-east Asian financial crisis intensified yesterday as the Malaysian government renewed its attack on currency and stock market speculators amid fears that the International Monetary Fund might withdraw support for the embattled Thai economy, writes Tom Stevenson, Financial Editor.

The Malaysian government yesterday stepped up its attack on the powerful hedge funds it believes have deliberately weakened its currency and stock markets. Anwar Ibrahim, the country's Minister of Finance, called for international rules to be drafted to "punish unscrupulous speculators". Speaking at a meeting of finance min-

isters in Mauritius, Mr Anwar said efforts should be made to police the activities of hedge funds and other investment firms to prevent them destabilising national and international financial markets. "He said: "What is absent in the present international financial system is a

mechanism to protect those who become victims of irresponsible bucaneering spec-Malaysia's currency, the ringgit, and its stockmarket have been badly hit by the cur-

rency crisis which spread through several south east Asian countries after the rapid depreciation of the Thai baht in July.

Mr Anwar said the IMF and the World Bank should address how to "deliver a major and substantive formula to protect emerging economies". He stressed Malaysia had a budget surplus and had already announced measures to increase this by making across the board cuts in expenditure and by deferring "mega-projects" such as new towns and dams.

His comments came only days before a meeting of European and Asian finance ministers in Bangkok and a high-profile IMF/World Bank meeting in Hong Kong. which begins in earnest at the weekend with a Group of Seven (G7) meeting.

The South East Asian crisis deepened yesterday after an article in Hong Kong's: South China Morning Post warned that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was considering withdrawing its support for a bailout package for Thailand. That country's central bank governor had previously warned it may fail to match reform targets next year.

Chaiyawat Wibulswasdi said Thailand was still committed to honouring its obligations under the international bailout programme but he admitted that meeting a fiscal surplus target set by the IMF for next year would be difficult.

Negotiating its worst financial crisis for 30 years, Thailand received the first \$1.6bn of a \$3.9bn standby credit from the IMF late last month.

The payment was part of a \$17bn package supported by Asian countries led by Japan.

#### Limelight shares rise as Cotter quits

Shares in Limelight bounced 2p to 37.5p yesterday after the troubled Moben kitchens and Dolphin bathrooms group announced the abrupt departure of Stephen Cotter, chief executive, in the wake of last week's profit warning.

The move came as part of a damage limitation exercise to stem the controversy whipped up by the collapse in the shares from the placing price of 175p in November, when Stephen Boler, the group's founder, took the opportunity of raising £60m from the sale of most of his stake.

A spokesman "categorically" denied that there had been pressure from institutional investors for the management change, but Mr Boler, who had been a nonexecutive director, is to return to the group as a consultant. Last week he said

he would not take on an executive position at Limelight. He will now form part of a new operational advisory committee to implement an action plan for the business, which will also include Andrew Stanway. managing director of the Sharps fitted bedroom business, who is to replace Mr Col. ter as group chief executive.

Mr Cotter, who is on an 18-month contract earning £230,000 last year, is still negotiating his pay-off, but it could end up being close to £350,000, if his contract is bonoured in full.

A restructuring will see the Dolphin business, which has seen an "unexpected" sales decline recently, merged with the MKD division, which currently includes Moben, another poor performer, and



OUTLOOK

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FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

# **BG** becomes a dedicated follower of fashion

Today's widely expected news from BG than £1bn of its shares presents this once troubled organisation with an intriguing public relations challenge. Having com-plained so loudly and bitterly about Clare Spottiswoode's new price controls, is Richard Giordano, the chairman, really proposing to turn round and say "only kidling. Actually we could have afforded a lot more"? This time last year he and his executives were claiming that the gas regulator's proposals amounted to theft, that they would destroy the company and endanger public safety. Now it appears that even after Ms Spottiswoode's savaging, the company still has the odd copper or two left to treat shareholders with. Talk about crying wolf.

On the face of, then, BG Group has quite a somersault to perform. The spectacle should make good sport. In the end, however, the potential for embarrassment here should not be allowed to get in the way of what may be a sound idea. Though a big share buy-back may seem a bit rich from the point of view of consumers (should this money not have been spent on yet further price reductions?), this is actually not the way to look at it. What BG is proposing is to rejig its capital by replacing equity with debt. It makes no difference to customers whether capital is in the form of debt or equity. It's not their money, so why should they care? If the cost of servicing the debt is cheaper than paying dividends, then over the long

Group that it intends to buy back more trends, the present fashion for buy-backs comes from the US, where they are now commonly used as a substitute for dividends. Already we have seen quite a lot of it here too, of course, but on nothing like the same scale as the US. Furthermore, there is still resistance in the City to the idea that buy-backs should be used as a substitute for dividends. Where the US leads, however, Britain tends to follow. Fee-hungry investment bankers are pursuing the opportunities with a whole battery of corporate clients and it could well be that we are on the verge of a veritable explosion in these things.

In the US, the thinking behind them broadly goes like this. Stock yields are now so low that companies need to find other ways of rewarding their shareholders. One way is to pay them in capital. There are also tax advantages in doing it this way since dividends are paid out of a company's net profits while interest on debt is paid out of gross profits.

With the abolition in the last Budget of tax credits on dividends, some of the same factors are beginning to come into play in the UK too. Dividends are now worth 20 per cent less to the big pension funds than they were before the Budget. In these circumstances both corporate and government bonds are made that much re attractive.

There are other factors too driving the big pension funds away from equity and towards bonds. The requirements of an term it might actually be to their benefit. ageing population and new government-

Like most modern-day commercial imposed "minimum funding requirements" are forcing the pensions industry progressively into the so called "safe" investment of debt. In other words, there is a real and possibly unsatisfied demand for bonds, while demand for equity may be on the wane. This is not to argue that the cult of equity is over, but it may not run as strongly as it did.

The buy-back is a logical consequence these developments. In the UK, the tendency has been for companies to use cash or bank borrowings to fund these exercises, but it can only be a matter of time before the process finds its mirror imagine in a revival of the corporate bond market. What could be neater than to buy back unwanted equity, then soak up the capital once more with a corporate bond

A good racket for the City, obviously. The tougher question is whether all this gearing up of the corporate balance sheet is entirely wise. In BG's case the balance sheet is plainly capable of taking much heavier debt gearing without causing undue concern. There are obvious dangers involved, however. It all looks fine at the moment with interest rates relatively low and inflation in abeyance, but what happens in the next recession?

Today's good idea may well seem like a rather bad one in the cold light of the next economic downturn. Investors are only prepared to provide a fixed interest rate for so long. In the event of a prolonged downturn, companies will be queuing up to go the other way and refinance their

over-geared balance sheets with cheaper equity. For the time being, however, the fashion is for the plunging neckline and the City will welcome what BG is doing with open arms.

## **Brown should stay** firm on spending

Might Gordon Brown have turned out to be too tough on public spending for his own good? So determined has he been to consign the Labour Party's tax and spend image to the dustbin of history that it looks increasingly as though he will not just meet but actually beat the Conservative government's expenditure plans this financial

This has certainly won over the City. The widespread reaction yesterday was that, with spending control this good, there would be scope to offer higher pay awards to key groups of public sector employees and still keep the PSBR on target. Most analysts have seen pay claims as one of the most likely sources of pressure for government spending, as the wage bill accounts for about a third of the expenditure total. Yesterday's figures suggest that a bit of this pressure can be safely released. Mr Brown won't want to trumpet this from the rooftops but even some one as parsimonious as he must know that a government that keeps stressing the importance of education will one day have to offer the teachers more money.

An extra 1 per cent on the total pay bill would cost another £1bn. Concentrated on particular high-profile groups, it could finance settlements generously in excess of the present going rate, about 3.5 per cent in the private sector. However, the good news on the government's finances is coming a bit early in the negotiations. If the Iron Chancellor is serious about keeping the lid on spending – and he has proved that he is - he needs to persuade all those aggrieved public sector groups that there really is not all that much to play for. His negotiating position would have been easier if the good news on the PSBR had been delayed for another six months.

There is an issue of economic strategy on top of the matter of negotiating tactics. To the extent that borrowing is below target because of the strong economy and falling unemployment, the Government should bank the difference. As Mr Brown pointed out before the election, at this stage of the last business cycle the Goverument was in surplus. He needs to resist calls to exploit the good news and loosen up on the purse strings, or he will find himself having to rein back again when the economy starts slowing down.

Even so, the public finances are plainly in much better shape than Labour was claiming before the last election. With the problem of the strong pound beginning to recede too, Mr Brown could hardly have hoped for a more benign economic backdrop to the Labour Party conference. He's yet to put a foot wrong and even the City is beginning to say "well done so far".

# Pearson poaches top finance man from Dorling Kindersley

A strengthening of the management team at Pearson is being seen as a move to avoid a repetition of the accounting scandal at its Penguin. Cathy Newman reports.

Pearson has appointed Peter-Gill, former group finance director at Dorling Kindersley, as director of financial operations, to tighten up its financial reporting and control procedures. City analysts said the appointment would safeguard Pearson from the appearance of any further "black holes" in its accounting systems. The company was forced to set aside £100m earlier in the year after the discovery of an accounting fraud in its Penguin subsidiary.

ttle

or quits

Meg Geldens, media analyst jat Merrill Lynch, said Mr Gill's skills would "come in very useful", She added: "There don't seem to be any black holes around at the moment, but having someone who's been in a business which is very similar to many of Pearson's businesses will belp them have closer control across their op-

erations." Mr Gill's appointment coincided with two other management changes. John Failon, PowerGen's director of communications, will take charge of Pearson's internal and external communications and Paul Vickers, legal services director at Cable & Wireless, will have responsibility for legal and

finance director, said the ad-

company secretarial affairs. John Makinson, Pearson's



ditions were not just a reaction to events at Penguin, but he admitted they were designed to improve financial controls. He added: "We're obviously extremely scrupulous about strengthening controls in the light of the Penguin business."

Anthony de Larrinaga, media analyst at Panmure Gordon. said: "Pearson needs to tighten up its financial reporting and controls within the group. Mr Gill's appointment will enable Mr Makinson to think more strategically and to look at acquisitions and so on."

The news was unwelcome for Dorling which saw its shares fall 14.5p to close at 270.5p. The City was concerned about the exit of another senior member

of staff so soon after the departure in July of Kristina Peterson, chief executive officer of the US division.

A cautious statement about future trading from Dorling's chairman, Peter Kindersley had also not belped, analysts said. Mr Kindersley said that although he was "confident" of future prosperity, there were "a number of challenges in the short term".

The group announced a 21 drop profits to £10.2m for the year to June, in line with market forecasts. However, a £2.5m exceptional reorganisation charge was higher than analysts had expected.

cost-cutting would continue,

and there would be some redundancies. It also emerged that staff bonuses have been slashed in an attempt to contain costs. Staff have in recent years been paid an extra month's salary as a discretionary bonus at the end of the summer.

However, this year, employees have been given a flat bonus of £250. The company said the US, where turnover was down 1 per cent, was problematical because of adverse retail conditions. In the UK turnover rose 17 per cent to £47.6m. The autumn publishing list was, Dorling added, "one of the strongest of recent years".

Shares in Dorling fell to Mr Kindersley said yesterday 202.5p earlier in the year from

# American Airlines toughens stance in battle over slots

**American Airlines** yesterday warned Brussels that it would not submit to the curbs it is seeking to impose on its alliance with BA. Michael Harrison

reports

The combative stance taken by American suggests attitudes are hardening on both sides as the long-running battle to get regulatory approval for the alliance from London, Washits climax.

Mr Karel Van Miert, Com-BA and American to surrender 353 take-off and landing slots a week at Heathrow - equal to 25 round trips a day - and reduce services on some transatlantic routes as the price for approving the deal.

But Don Carty, president of American, said on a visit to London that it was only prepared to surrender about half that number, describing the Office of Fair Trading's recommendation that 168 slots be said he would be concerned if Melbourne.

also reiterated American's insistence that it would not give petition Commissioner, wants the slots away for free, pointing out that it had paid TWA \$450m when it took over its services into Heathrow in the late

> Mr Carty also indicated that American expected the support of the US government in fighting its corner, saying that some of Mr Van Miert's proposals were totally inconsistent with US competition policy.

The US Under Secretary of State, Stuart Eizenstat, has

ington and Brussels approaches given up as acceptable. He the conditions imposed by Brussels were such that it stopped the alliance going ahead and prevented open skies across the Atlantic.

"In terms of giving away slots we have reached the limit," said Mr Carty, adding that the price Brussels was asking

was not one that it would pay. However, he said the two airlines would not, as earlier suggested, walk away from the alliance if they were still waiting for regulatory clearance in November when they attend the bi-annual slot conference in

COMPUTER SYSTEMS

# Earnings premium for qualifications shows steady increase, says report

**Education boosts your** earnings. The bad news is that it might not help you get a job.

Diane Coyle, Economics Editor, reports that dole queues have become steadily better-educated.

Pay rises steadily in line with educational attainment, and the cornings premium for gaining qualifications has increased, according to a new report.

Women benefit even more than men in the extent to which staying on in education improves their earnings, although men on average are still paid a quarter to a third more than women whatever they have beraten their ears.

But one catch is that educational qualifications have become a less sure passport to a job as the skill level of the population has risen. The unemployment rate for the unqualified has changed little; while graduates' risk of unemployment is still far lower but has risen over the years.

A second drawback is the growing need for students to work to support themselves on the way to their qualification. One in four full-time 16-19-year-old students and one in five among the 20-24 year-olds also holds a part-time job.

"Pay is increasing in real terms for workers with a higher level of education, whilst barely holding up, if not decreasing, for people with low or no qualifications," according to the Employment Policy Institute's

A woman with a degree carned £349.42 a week on average in 1996, nearly three times more than the £118.32 average for women with no qualifications. The gap had grown slightly since 1993, when the respective pay levels were £343.94 and

£117\_59 a week in 1996 pounds.

Last year the average man with a degree made a weekly £530.23, just over twice as much as the £242,67 earned by his unqualified counterpart. . Female pay rates have stuck

Men enjoyed a smaller return to their educational qualifications but at all levels of attainment earned more than

at 75 to 80 per cent of the equivalent male pay level. A woman with a degree typically makes about the same in a week as a

autumn Employment Andit. man with 'A' levels or an advanced vocational qualifica-

> But a separate article in the same report, written by Peter Robinson of the London School of Economics, shows that while 59 per cent of the unemployed in 1979 had no qualifications, this had dropped to 29 per cent by 1996.

> Unemployment rates for the unskilled have risen far less over the years than unemployment amongst the best qualified, although the former are still about six times more likely to be out of a job.

**35 Time Showrooms** 

Mr Robinson writes: "Significantly fewer of the unemployed were unqualified in 1996 when compared with 1979, reflecting the large increase in the holding of quali-



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## Airbus wins another £1.5bn American order

Airbus Industrie, the European aircraft manufacturer, notched up another success in the US yesterday after America West Airlines placed a \$1.5bn order for 34 short-haul jets from the A320 range. The carrier, which recently came out of bankruptcy protection, also has options to buy a further 12 A320s. The order follows a \$4bn deal won earlier this month by Airbus from the California-based International Lease Finance Company.

#### US economy still on track

The news on the US economy was better than ever yesterday, with figures showing an even better combination of strong growth and low inflation in August. Industrial production jumped by 0.7 per cent, partly thanks to car production bouncing back after the previous month's strike at General Motors. Separate figures confirmed that the strong growth is not yet showing signs of triggering inflation. Consumer prices rose 0.2 per cent in August, with the core measure up by only 0.1 per cent. So far this year the annual inflation rate has been only 1.6 per cent. Analysts do not think the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates in the near future.

#### £6.5m debt aid for Uganda

Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, said Britain would provide over £6.5m to help reduce the debt owed by Uganda to the African Development Bank. The move forms part of the debt reduction initiative agreed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank last year. Uganda will be the first country to benefit under the initiative, starting in April 1998. The new UK contribution, together with extra money from Norway and the Netherlands, will cover the debt relief due to Uganda from the African Development Bank, which could not finance its share from its own resources.

In a separate speech yesterday, Gordon Brown, the Chancellot of the Exchequer, urged that new impetus be given to debt rehet for the poorest countries. Speaking in Mauritius, he said every heavily indebted poor country should be launched on the process of debt relief by the year 2000.

#### Rexam may hand out £1.5bn

Revam, the packaging and coated papers group, is considering a £1.5bn cash distribution to shareholders if it cannot find the right acquisitions by next March. Shares in the company rose 5.5 per cent as the group announced it hoped to boost top-line growth by £500m over the next three years. The company, which reported underlying profits up 11 per cent to £92m in the six months to June, said the strong pound would cost it £14m this year.

#### Perkins to build Indian plant

Perkins, the engine division of the Anglo-American automotive group Lucas Varity, is to build an engine plant in India in part-nership with a local company. The facility, to be located in the Madras region, will produce 60,000 engines a year for the Indian commercial and agricultural vehicle market. Perkins has a similar joint venture in China which will produce 55,000 engines.

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Abbot Mond Yickers (I)	208m (159m)	6 12m (4.70m)	5.03p (3.98p)	2 00p (1 625
Alument Group (F)	172m (152m)	14 8m (14.1m)	25.3p (24.3p)	8 5p (-)
Willem Baird (1)	284ca (304m)	11 6m (5 fm)	6.7p (2.0p)	3.90p (3.55g
Britax lotal (1)	383m (476m)	22.2m (19.4m)	4 5p (4,11p)	0.85p (0.77p)
Delta (I)	448 (495m)	33. im (11 5m)	13.6p (1.8p)	4 5p (4.5p)
Domestic & General (F)	84.2m (74.1m)	12.7m (11 4m)	128.30 (11.53)	) 47.5p
Dorling Kindersley (F)	180m (174m)	8.9m (12.9m)	6 Op (11.0p)	4.50
Exte (1)	101m (114m)	5 4m (12.3m)	1 3p (5 1p)	°0 75p (1.5p
Hays (F)	ı 1bn (966m)	149m (132m)	24 90 (22.30)	9.3p (8 1p)
John Wewlett (i)	692m (693m)	-31 Sm (5.3m)	-18 3p (2 6p)	1 Sp (nil)
Ressee (I)	1 040m (1.200m)	192.0m (83.0m)	12 fp (11 fp)	6.1p (6.1p)
51 James's Place (I)	-1-1	13.6m (42.2m)	3.6p (11.0p)	0 75p († 125
jaka: Moteton (i)	626m (556m)	36.2m (25.5m)	6.2p (4.4p)	1 25p (1 0p)
Tesco (I)	7 Jan (6 7bm	348m (326m)	11 1p (10 5p)	3 55p (3 25p
Wateret (i)	45 5m (46 0m)	63m (4.92m)	16.4p (13.06p)	5.2p (4.5p)
(f)- [max (f) - laterian	1 - Pis-tax profit	belon exceptional	- Dividend to	be pad as a R

# **Eastern Group seeks** partial switch to gas

Eastern Group, the UK's fourth largest electricity generator, has applied to the government to convert two of its coal-fired power stations to burn gas. The announcement came as RJB Mining, which took over most British Coal pits at privatisation, stepped up its attack on the hift from coal to gas. Chris Godsmark, business correspondent, reports.

Eastern submitted the application to the Department of Trade and Industry earlier this week, which would allow the two 1,000 megawatt power stations, Rugeley in Staffordshire and Drakelow in Derbyshire, to burn gas as well as coal. The move would cost £40m, much of which would go on laying four miles of underground gas

Rugeley and Drakelow were two of the five large coal generating stations taken over from National Power and PowerGen last year. Together they burn 2.5 million tons of coal, which until next April is supplied by the two privatised generators.

Bill Watson, managing director of Eastern Generation, said it was too early to predict how much coal would be displaced. "I haven't the faintest idea. We'do expect to burn some gas but the proportions are

too difficult to estimate," he said. Eastern, headed by John Devaney, chief executive, denied that the application was a bargaining tool to put pressure on coal producers like RJB, when longterm coal contracts expire in the spring. Mr Watson said the shift to gas was the only way Eastern could meet environmental targets for sulphur emissions in 2005.



John Devaney: Wants £40m conversion of two coal-fired stations

The news coincided with RJB's response to new price control proposals for the power industry from Offer, the industry watchdog. The company claimed consumers would pay an extra £170m next year because gas generation cost more than coal.

Colin Godfrey, RJB's market development director, said Eastern's decision was another sign of the "uphill struggle" faced by the coal industry. The DTI is currently considering more than 20 applications to build gas-fired capacity and has approved three since the election.

Mr Watson insisted it was sometimes advantageous to burn gas. "There are times of the year when we have a surplus of gas. This is also about hedging our risk in the energy trading arena."

#### Rescue for Laura Ad boom boosts Ashley factory Abbot Mead

sign a contract to take over one of Laura Ashley's two clothing factories in Wales company to benefit from the advertising which have been threatened with closure. boom as it reported first half profits be-The move will save 100 jobs. Baird plans fore tax up 30 per cent to £6.1m. to use the factory to manufacture men's the group's £60m UK sales with M&S.

chines. David Suddens, the new-broom from BT, Volvo and Air Lingus. chief executive, hopes to have the factory the UK, by opening factories in Morocco, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. He said Baird should double its profits made overseas from 20 per cent currently by 2000.

William Baird, the textiles group, will today Abbott Mead Vickers, the advertising agency group, yesterday became the latest

Jeremy Hicks, group finance director, casual trousers for Marks & Spencer and said advertisers were on average spending expects the extra capacity to add £5m to 8 per cent more than the previous year. The company's performance had also been Baird is taking over the lease and lia- helped by the £100m of new business the bilities of the factory, which is in north group has won so far this year. Abbott Wales, and will invest £100,000 in new ma- Mead has recently won new accounts

Responding to speculation by City anup and running by October. Speaking as alysts that Omnicom, the advertising netthe group announced half-year profits to work which owns 26.5 per cent of Abbott June up a third, Mr Suddens said Baird Mead, would try and buy out the rest, Mr planned to track M&S expansion outside Hicks said: "If Omnicom were to come along and offer enough, we'd be quite happy to talk to them. But the arrangement works well at the moment." Abbott Mead shares closed up 15p at 366p.

## Tesco powers on to new heights

The Lord MacLanrin era may be over at Tesco, but Britain's number one grocery retailer powers on regardless. Half-year profits of £350m were in line with expectations and when all the analyst community can find to pick holes in is a disappointing performance in France, the company must be doing something right.

Like-for-like sales growth of 6 per cent in the half-year and in current trading sets the benchmark for the rest to follow. The rise in Tesco's UK market share from 14.2 to 15 per cent probably comes more at the expense ofgroups like the Co-Op and the independents than the other three superstore groups, but it is impressive nevertheless.

The 9 per cent profits advance was achieved despite lower European profits and a £2m loss on the start-up of its financial services division. In financial services, Tesco is pushing ahead with a savings account like Samsonry's and mortgages could be on the way. It is also targeting non-food ranges in store and is keen to sell more newspapers, childrenswear, health and beauty products. If the manufacturers can be encouraged to supply them, the group will also soon be selling perfume, branded sportswear and tele-

visions at lower prices.

With the UK business firmly under control, Tesco is looking further afield. The £600m Quinnsworth acquisition in Ireland is being bedded in and organic expansion in central Europe, where sales are powering ahead, will continue. The Cartean chain in France has been disappointing. Tesco would like to inacceptable 43 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £36.2m for the six months to June.

NatWest

MARKFI

REPORTER

OF THE YEAR

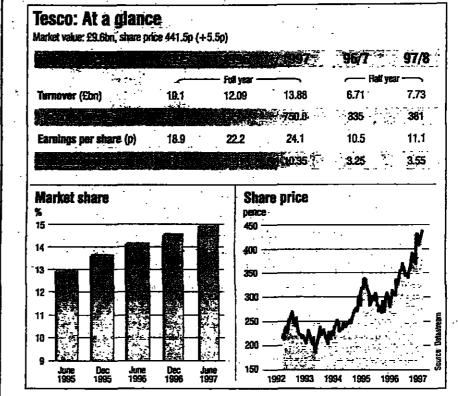
But to take it on from here, Mr Castle must get to grips with construction, which turned a £1.2m loss into a meagre £1m profit on sales of £307m in the half-year. That remains an unacceptable return for a business which has averaged less than 1 per cent on sales since 1985.

Mr Castle talks of the business taking on less general contracting and more complicated work, such as projects under the Gov-ernment's Private Finance Initiative. But he is in effect ruling out an exit from contract-

ing in the short term. So housing will continue to lead the group for now, reporting a 71 per cent leap in profits to £16.4m in the latest numbers. The figures were inflated by a one-off £4m profit uplift from upmarket housing schemes at London's Kensington Green and in Toronto. With the underlying housing trend strong and property also on the up, full-year profits of £80m are in sight, putting the shares, up 1.5p at 186p, on a forward p/e of 13. Attractive.

#### The three facets of Hays

Ronnie Frost, chairman of Hays, has a point when he complains about investors' inordinate interest in the distribution side of the group. Though distribution - hauling M&S clothes or sulphuric acid around Europe by lonry clearly remains important, given Hays tried to merge with Christian Salvesen last year,



crease its share in France with a deal, but it is finding the prices attached to the larger

On NatWest's full-year profits forecast of £819m, the shares, up 5.5p to 441.5p, trade

on a forward rating of 17. That is a slight premium to the market but justified given the track record. Still worth

# Walking a tightrope at Taylor Woodrow

John Castle, the new chief executive of the Taylor Woodrow, has a tricky tightrope to walk. On the one hand, he is attempting to imprint his mark on the group by giving a prod to an existing review of the still limping construction operation. On the other, he is constrained from taking the sort of radical action the City might like to see by the continuing presence on the board of Colin Parsons, the executive chairman, who is probably some two years away from retirement.

Let there be no mistake, Mr Parsons has been the saviour of Taylor Woodrow, turning it into one of the quality companies in the sector in the space of five years. Just to prove the point, the group yesterday reported a very logistics is less than two-fifths of total profits. The other two divisions - the commercial business, involving mail and document transfer, and recruitment - warrant equal attention.

Hays is growing all three legs impressively. While falling margins on food distribution contracts are crippling the likes of Salvesen, Hays' future looks assured, helped by its small-company management style and good acquisition record. Though recession in the key German market left logistics profits in the year to June down, the UK and France are going great guns. International customers like M&S and Nestlé want pan-European distributors, and Mr Frost rightly plans to keep building its German business. Hays is also planning to go into northern Italy with a French food retailing customer - probably Carrefour - and later into Spain.

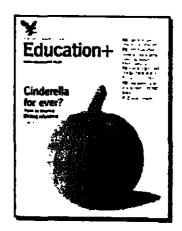
In the UK, new contracts with BP and Shell mean Hays has sewn up most of the market supplying petrol forecourts with things like fresh food. However, Mr Frost's most urgent desire is growing the commercial side, with the chances of a £100m acquisition coming before Christmas.

With gearing at just 26 per cent and interest cover at 19 times, the group has the fire-power to keep building. Nat West Securities forecasts £185m profits next year. The shares, down 11p to 641.5p, are on a forward multiple of 21 times. Still a good bet.

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#### PEOPLE & BUSINESS

Sameena Ahmad

The property guru who made his fortune out of the Fleet Street Letter, and chairs both Burford Holdings and Troca-dero, has made almost £4m from the sale of most of his shares in financial group Singer & Friedlander and in Grantchester, the warehouse developer. His stake in Nottingham Forest is going to worth £7m-£8m when the footie chib floats next month, but those deals suggest he is raising a sizeable amount of cash for yet another

Just what is Nigel Wray up to?

It's hard to believe that the well-groomed entrepreneur had the time to pose for a double-page spread in the cur-rent issue of Tatler, where he vies for space with the likes of Christie Brinkley and a feature entitled "Is your sofa letting you down?" Wray is pictured looking spectacularly glum in a rughy shirt (he owns Saracens too) but we do get a little insight into the his lifestyle.

Yes, there is the large mansion in Totteridge in north London complete with swimming pool and Porsche and Land Rower in the drive. But, we are told, Wray is "modest man". Following the birth of his son Joseph, the magazine says, Wray would turn up for meetings with sick on his suit and marks where he had been licked by one of the family's alsations.

John Fallon, one time political adviser to Labour's bruiser-inchief John Prescott, is continning his journey through the business establishment. He is leaving his posting at PowerGen at the end of October to become Maismie Scardino's righthand man and PR guru at Pearson, publisher among other things of the Pink Un.

#### BZW's top-ranked telecoms research team deciding three weeks of schlepping out to the



Most people carry papers or the odd bit of cash in their briefcases. Not Ronnie Frost. the cuddly chairman of logistics group Hays. Mr Frost carries a shiny, new artificial hip in his. Not that it will be there for long. Mr Frost, who underwent a double hip replacement operation in February, apparently plans to fit the three-inch metal joint to the front of his Range Rover car.

Strange behaviour? Well Mr Frost, who is keen on a spot of grouse and pheasant shooting, is eager to convince his buckshot buddies that he is now fighting fit and can scramble over ditches and under hedges with the best of them. "I used to be a lot of trouble, holding everyone back. When they see this on my car, they'll know I'm back on my feet," he chuckles.

In true Hays style. Mr Frost who originally only wanted his right hip joint replaced, agreed to a double operation when his surgeon said fitting two would be cheaper than one. I couldn't turn that kind of deal down," he says, Apparently, the third hip joint got thrown in for free. It came in the post the next day," says Mr Frost.

More revolving doors in the

bank's sumptuous new home at Canary Wharf was more than enough commuting thank you very much. Jonathan Lewis, 29, and Jane Bidmesd, 24, have been snapped up by Dresdner Kleinwort Benson to join its now

nine-strong global telecoms team. No noses out of joint, soothes new head research honcho Jamie Stevenson -James Dodd remains global gure advising on primary offers like the France Telecom sell-off, leaving the UK secondary market to the new recruits.

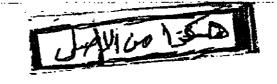
Colin Parsons, Taylor Woodrow's jovial chairman, is probably reluctant to dabble in arts sponsorship again, after the construction group's experience with its famous logo of four naked men beaving on a

One of the more enduring industrial symbols, the four men were dreamed up in 1956 by a humble storeman at Taylor Woodrow's then plant company, who received £15 for his pains after winning a design competition. But it was the monolithic granite sculpture of the four by the British artist David Wynne outside the Taylor Woodrow Construction HQ in Southall, west London, which caused more than a few red faces a few years ago.

During a rag week, some local students decided to redecorate certain small but perfeetly formed parts of the anatomically correct sculpture with scarlet paint. This had an electrifying effect on the female members of staff and Mr Parsons had to hastily round up a "task force" of cleaners to re-City's equity departments with store some decorum.

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# NatWest keeps investors guessing as BAe leads blue chips higher

MARKET REPORT



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DEREK PAIN STOCK MARKET REPORTER OF THE YEAR

Blue chips enjoyed their best the bank's problems and Littlechild, intends to bear is likely to use the cash to buy Nikko advocating a 1,440p furniture group that last year months with Footsie surging 73.5 points to 4,976.4. British Aerospace led the climb although it was the performance of National Westminster Bank

which intrigued. Nat West was in buoyant form. peak with a 10.5p gain, was the The shares have risen with the stock market in the past two days but, perhaps more significantly, they moved ahead

Yesterday they rose 24.5p to 875.5p with a deepening suspicion there could after all be truth in the story, dismissed when it first surfaced, of a deal with the German Com- piry.

merzbank. The theory is that the Ger-

Nat West is on the bid trail, pre- National Power declined 13.5p

better to grow from weakness 572.5p. than consolidate. For the fifth day running surance group riding at a 762p with the adverse US court

chosen victim. BAe, up 82p to a 1,651.5p peak, was propelled by a de- of the hype over its new geartermined Merill Lynch push last week, blissfully ignoring a and a 46-aircraft order for its decidedly jittery atmosphere. Airbus Industrie associate.

The Footsie display, helped by US buying and a strong 6p to 105p. New York opening, also drew ahead of Friday's Footsie ex-

The power generators, bright recently, missed the buy collieries from JCI for mans want to buy NatWest's fun. They were ruffled by inwounded securities arm. Such dications that their industry a sale would cut away one of regulator, Professor Stephen

sumably taking the view it is to 777p and PowerGen 7p to

Thorn, the rental group, Commercial Union, the in- had another dismal session ruling lowering the shares a further 14p to a 137.5p low. BTG, after its run on the back put on 17p to 1,077.5p with

> box, fell 47.5p to 707.5p. Lourho, the demerger which failed to materialise, fell to its lowest for three years, off

The growing involvement impetus from positioning with South Africa's JCI is causing unease. Lonrho is planning through a quoted South African off-shoot to £229m.

JCI, which at one time wanted to merge with Lonrho,

session for more than two would be good for the shares. down on prices as well as cau- Anglo American's 26.7 per target. It expects year's prof- enjoyed a sharp profit ad-Another yarn is that tious investment meetings. cent interest in Tiny Row- its to emerge at £621.5m land's former vehicle.

National Grid continued to progress on hopes its Energis off-shoot will be floated and

group's cost-cutting link with Canada's Northern Telecom. BOC, the chemical group.

telecommunication

120p on Sir John Hall's sur-Share spotlight



against £550.5m.

Royal Bank of Scotland hardened 4.5p to 619p; it sold its 2 per cent stake in Spanish bank Banco Espanol de Cred- group known for its beer barito, making a £30m profit in the process.

prise departure; the shares expects £16.4m this year. were floated at 135p in April. Polypipe, the building materials group, rose 5p to 27p. Four years ago the shares 216.5p. A clutch of investment houses said buy, includ-

Newcastle Utd fell 3.5p to

ing SBC Warburg. Delyn, the property group, held at 97.5p as Compco lifted its stake to 2.33 per cent. It has terim figures are due later this said it would bid if invited to month. do so. Delyn is resisting an offer from the Newport property

Black Arrow, the office haps, £6m for the year.

TAKING STOCK

vance to £3.6m, gained 5p to

an 88.5p peak. The company is

looked upon as a likely take-

rels, put on 22.5p to 255p fol-

lowing a ninth consecutive

profits advance; it produced

£14.8m against £14.1m. BZW

ment consultant, put on 2p to

topped 120p. The company suffered a £33.2m deficit last

year, largely due to a book loss

on the sale of its US millstone,

Philip Crosby Associates. In-

Proudfoot, the manage-

Alumase, the engineering

over target.

Exchange and Tradepoint Financial, the stock market in miniature, is getting more intense. Next month Tradepoint's order driven system will have to contend with a powerful Stock Exchange challenge when it switches to order-driven trading, as opposed to quote-driven, for the 100 Footsie shares.

Last week the Stock Exchange slashed its charges to undercut Tradepoint. But in a deal with inter-dealer brokers, which have nearly 10 per cent of its capital, Tradepoint has countered and is, in effect, now offering a free service. Yesterday Tradepoint shares edged forward 1p to 124.5, highest for nearly a year, as it reported its thirdbest session with share deals

topping £16m. There are signs it should In August, ahead of an produce a reasonable half-£11.4m rescue package the time result indicating, per-

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## 20 September 1989

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## 20 September 1989

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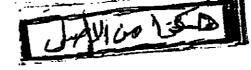
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source: Bloomberg

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# 29/RACING

# Canon Can on target

Canon Can, the Doncaster Cup winner, headed the 55 acceptors at yesterday's forfeit stage for the Cesarewitch Handicap, to he run over two miles and two furlongs at Newmarket on Saturday, 18 October.

Despite a 4lb penalty for his Doncaster success, raising his weight to 10st, Henry Cecil's four-year-old, third in last year's event, is the 12-1 co-favourite with the Tote.

Also on 12-1 are John Gosden's progressive gelding Media Star, runner-up in the Ebor Handicap, and Sausalito Bay, lan Balding's improving threeyear-old. Inchcailloch, last year's winner Shaft Of Light, Top Cees and Mawared have accepted but Old Red, the 1995 Cesarewitch winner, is out.



Cesarewitch betting				
Horse	C	н_	1	
Cenon Can	8-1	10-1	12-1	
Media Star	10-1	10-1	12-1	
Sausallto Bay	12-1	10-1	12-1	
Mawared	12-1	<b>12-</b> 1	14-1	
Right Mas	12-1	14-1		
Marked Maybe	no 16-1	14-1	16-1	
Sheft Of Light		16-1		
Three Cheers	16-1	16-1	16-1	
Top Coes	16-1	12-1	14-1	
Valagalore	14-1	16-1	12-1	
Inchesilloch		20-1		
C - Cond I	I - Will	am Hill T−1	inte	

Conventional wisdom insists there is no such thing as a winning system for the horses,

but two men and their vast racing database disagree. Greg Wood reports on how computers can analyse the unpredictable.

A year or two ago, a racecourse bookmaker decided to enter the digital age. Instead of the traditional, colourful betting tickets which tell you who you are betting with but nothing else, he produced computerised tickets, rather like those from a pay-and-display machine, which told punters which horse

This, he predicted, was the future of on-course betting.

of the post-racing debris in Tattersalls will tell you, the old-fashioned tickets are still going have so far made on the day-to- than leafing through page after day business of betting. Racing and punting, it seems, are wild, unpredictable and exciting. Computers are not. And yet anyone whose betting rises beyond the level of hopeful pinsticking will spend time studying form, or in other words, performing dozens of very intricate and time-consuming calculations - which is something computers are very good at indeed.

they had backed, how much they tedly, a valuable source of rac-most 100 different variables. punters with systems are their all-weather and starting at 16-1 had staked and at what odds. ing information - there is a And to do so in seconds. Tim Drakeford and Bill wealth of news and racecards Wilkinson are the directors of provided by The Sporting Life In fact, as the briefest study and Press Association at Racedata Modelling, and their

Punters on the information superhighway

ROM, and a click of a mouse Racing System Builder. What strong, which is a fair reflection to scroll back through a horse's you get for that money is a racof the impact that computers record is far more convenient ing database of extraordinary page of paper. In terms of basic numbercrunching, however, the capabilities of the average home PC are underused. Thanks to the diligence of the two men who each of the last 10 years would take hours using a form book. run a company called Racedata Modelling, though, it is now

possible to analyse the results

www.sporting-life.com. Form-

books are available on CD-

depth, which can be easily manipulated in any number of ways. To discover, for instance, how Henry Cecil's two-year-olds have fared when ridden by Willie Ryan at Newmarket in

impressive product (priced ac-

cordingly at £349) is called the

For the RSB, it takes moments. The ultimate aim of such inof every single Flat race to effect on the outcomes of al- a saying that the biggest fans of when

bookmakers. In racing, though, there are punters who make betting pay and they are usually systematic in their approach.

"It is now possible to look at racing in an entirely rational our customers is an on-course dodgy favourites and then lay them heavily."

Drakeford and Wilkinson had both realised the possibilities that computer modelling techniques might hold for racing before meeting in the late 1970s, and have been compiling their data and tweaking the sysvestigation, of course, is to tem since 1985. An early dishave been run in Britain over track down that mythical beast, covery was that backing colts the last 10 years, and assess the a winning system. Now, there is and geldings, aged five or less,

or less, would have produced a healthy profit to level stakes in every one of the eight years for which data is available.

An omission from the RSB

database at present is the way," Drakeford says, "It can be chance to analyse the draw, but put to all sorts of uses. One of this will be corrected within the next two months. Computer bookie, who uses it to identify owners, meanwhile, will find a copy of the RSB starter pack, with data from the last two seasons, available free of charge with several PC magazines in October (it normally costs £149), which will give anyone with a system the chance to find out if the analytical approach is for them. Of course, they may find that they prefer pin-stick-

Racedata Modelling Ltd,

#### SANDOWN

**HYPERION** 2.15 Hoh Justice 4.25 Irtifa 2.45 RED RABBIT (nap) 4.55 Palo Bianco 3.20 Setteer

5.25 Lookout (nb) 3.50 Veni Vidi Vici

3.50 Veni Vidi Vici

GOING: Round course - Good to Firm; Sprint course - Good, Good to Firm in places, STALLS: 5f course - tar side; remainder - inside (except tim6f - outside).

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f, 7f & fm.

Fight-hand course. Separate stiff 5f track.

Course is on A307, four miles south of Kingston. Esher rail station (service from London, Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSSION: Cub £15, Junior Club (17 - 21 yrs) £15; Grandstand & Paddock £10; Park £4. CAR PARK: £2 in members, remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hannon 38 wins from 315 races gives a auccess ratio of 121%, in Shoules 24-149 (81.1%), J Duniop 23-118 (19.5%), I Baiding 20-111 (19.5%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddory 53 wins from 25f ridds gives a success ratio of 22.4%, L Detion 53-249 (21.3%). T Culam 27-201 (19.4%). J Raid 27-230 (11.7%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ice Age (4.55); Hoh Justice (visored, 2.15); Royale Rose (visored, 4.25).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Lookout (5.25) wor at Kempion on Wetheadby, LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Sadaebah (2.15) has been sent 249 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, North Yorkshire.

10	45	SURBITON MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLI	199 E1 64 02
	.15	added 2YO 5f 6yds Penalty Value £2,882	
, —		CALL TO ORDER (15) (Incluse Record Pariners Two) C Well 8 18	Det Eddard
2	08050	BLUTE SHADOW (8) (J B R Leisure Ltd) R Hannon & 9	Dame O'Not 41
3	023440	HOH JUSTICE (23) (O F Alport)   Balding 8 9	Y Cuino 16\
4		ALGEBRA (R A Bernard) R Harmon 8 6	W.J (l'Conner 1
5	230242	BANDBOX (23) (The Bandbox Brigade) S Mellor 8 6	.1 Reid
6		MAGIC POWERS (Highlyers) G Beiding 86	S Drowne 3
7	084	OH SO EASY (26) (Easycal Partnership No 2) B Meetian 86	M Tobbestt 1
8	0	SADEEBAH (5) (J David Abell) M Johnston 8 6	
9	3	MALIALIS (5) (C.) Miles R Guest 8 4	P Bloomfald I
10	034202	ARIAN DA (9) (J Hamilton-Jones) & Pelling & 1	T Somice 14
π		FORM AT LAST (Mrs Burbara Bassett) W Hagges & 1	doubilal 13
12	00	NORY CHARM (32) (Dean lyon) K lyony 8 1	N Adams 13
13		TULLICH REFRAIN (5) (J. Jamesey) W Mair 81	
14		MERCH RHYD-Y-GRUG (D L Williams) 1) Williams 7 12	,P Cleary (7) 10
15		SASO'S JOY (Conrads Angele) C Allen 7 12	
18	0	THE DRUEDESS (109) (Bravery Facing) G Bravery 7 12	D R McCabe (

BETTING: 3-1 Majatis, 7-2 Call To Order, 4-1 Arian Da, 5-1 Hoh-Justice, 6-1 On So Easy, 10-1 Sada bah, 12-1 Bandbox, 14-1 Tuljich Refrain, Blue Shedow, Algabra, 20-1 others 1996 Gastic Storm 2 8 3 8 Doyle 15-2 (M Johnston) drawn (2) 14 ran FORM GUIDE

The draw gives Hoh Justice every chance in his first-time visor – the colt having faded Into craw gives your usessee every cranton in use trans vace—the continent state in two sever-furions races since he good nursery fourth to Master Made at Lingsfeld 89. Two likely types to best Hoh Justice are Mejatis and CALL TO ORDER, who are both crawn in the middle. Mejatis is sure to improve on her dejout run at Bath last week when third to Age Dancer and Arian De with Tullich Retrain in seventh. Mejatis should improve enough to reverse the form with Arian De (well drawn in 14) and Confirm it with Tullich Retrain in 14) and Confirm it with Tullich Retrains in 15). Freit, who is baddy housed in stall the. If Tutlich Historia from up to merices were very con-Order (behind Willia Mur's filly at Windson) cannot best hispalls at these weights. But Cell To Order has improved since with a fine second to Halserm (third to Teapot Row on de-but) at Folkestone (8) and the return to the minimum and with Pat Eddery reunited sug-gests he's the one to beat. Bandbox and Blue Shadow look beatable from a low draw and, while Sadeebath (stall five) is not too well placed, he is sure to be better than his as-weather debut showing suggests.

Salection: CALL TO ORDER i rain up to her best

# The Internet is now, admit-2.45 E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,550 added 2YO fillies 1m 14yds Penalty Value £3,225

1996: Fij 2 8 11 Pat Eddery 4-7 fav (r) Caolij drawn (2) 7 am FORM GUIDE is this as straightforward as it seems with RED RABBIT having already finished ahead of Mable and Sahara? The ground was softer at Safabory (7) a fortnight ago when Rad Rabbit finished strongly in second behind the favorite Bus Gentlan. Her half-brother Papua, won it not race at Newmarket (7) last backend as Rad Rabbit can be fancied to improve further and to stay today's extra funiong. Nebt was second favourite end third at Safabory, over three lengths behind Rad Rabbit, and Sahara a further two lengths back in fifth. Several, a half-sister to Polar Falcon, was badly drawn that day and is bound to do better here. Acebo Lyons and Good Catch both have some ability – the latter seemingly falling to cope with soft ground last time.

3	.20	SANDOWN FUTURITY STAKES (CLASS C) 26,90 2YO 1m 14yds Penalty Value 24,170	)O added
1	43315	PICHON BARON (USA) (5) (D) (A S Raid) B Meetist 9.7	_M Tabbutt :
2	31	SELTEEN (SA) (Streich African Al Marktopan) M Jarvis 9 1	4 Delical بلي.
. 3 .	32250	SMOOTH SAILING (13) (C) (A PI Perrish) K McAultile 9 1	Pat Eddery 1
4	3141	SAFFRON LANE (32) (S.L. Partnership) R Harmon 8 10	ana O'Nalii 2
·-		- 4 declared -	-

1996: Berrum Stands 2 9 1 Pet Eddery 5-8 fev (J. Dunlop) drawn (2) 3 ran FORMI GUIDE
Frankle Dettork knows where he stands here having won on both the cost SETTEEN and the filty Settron Lans. Dettori again partners setteen after a clear-out Ascot win from Celtic Pageant – that run coming effer a promising third to the smart Linden Heights at Newmerket, form which has also been boosted by Deterrent (second) and Mushraat (routh). Both of Settron Lane's wins have come with Dettori – the latest in a nursery at Newbury with something in hand over Acid Rest. Shats on the upgrade, but Setteen can outstay her over this mile. Smooth Settling returned to action at York a fortnight ago after being gelded. He may have needed that run in Noble Demand's mile-nursery and the ground was rembelov too testing for him.

THE WEATHEDRYC CONNCIDENT IN PACING HANDICAP

	-13	50	(CLASS D) £5,000 added 7f 16yds Penaity Value £3,810
-	تا .		(CLASS D) 25,000 added 7f 16yds Penalty Value 53,810
	1 -	0.2650	SHAMANIC (47) (Robert Pussel) S Woods 5.9 12
	2		ORANGE PLACE (9)(D) (Lodge Cross Pertnership) B Lieucelyn 59 11 J Williamore (7) 11
	3	-00314	CARRESEAN STAR (39) (D) (W H Scott) M Stoute 3 9 7
	4	C24	TARTS WELL (47) ID Helfn Jones R Alighand 495T Claim?
	5	£-3540	FAYIK (15) (Ciris Brachury) A Newcombe 3 9 2
	6	642312	DUNAMER GOLF TIME (13)(D) (Corician Pertners) Lord Huntingdon 492 Pet Eddery 8 V
	7.	005205	EFFERVESCENCE (77) (D) (Gold Buster Syndicate (Z)) R Harron 3 9 1 Dane O'Nell S
	8	452400	DUELLO (13) (D) (BP) (H C Primotona Ltd) M Biershied 691L Duttori 2
	9	-36550	ASHEY HEL (13) Mass Marrel Tulnell) P. Prove 69 0
	10		VENE VIDI VICI (13) (T P.Jones) M Heston-Elic 4 8 13
	Ħ	015263	TWIN CREEKS (15) (D) (Four Sessons Racing) Y Scans 8 8 13
	12	000050	DAMCES WITH HOOVES (40) (V Squegle) D Pleanch Davis 5 8 10
	18	. 442100	MYTTONS MISTAKE (13) (D) (Gordon Mytton) A Balley 489
	Μ.		ALFAHAAL (6) (8F) (CW Summer) R Johnson Houghton 4 B B
•	15.	0156-0	REDRAPURA (6) (D) (Custom Recing) J tong 5 8 4
	16	0-00000	BELDRAY PARK (12) (Alden Murphy) Mas A King 47 10

BETTMC: 7-2 Denmer Golf Yime, 5-1 Albahes, 6-1 Mytons Mintains, 6-1 Tatle We 10-1 Turis Crueta, 72-1 Ashby HIII, Doello, Veni Vict Vict, 14-1 Fayit, Elfervence ic, Orange Place, 25-1 Indiapura, Dancas With Houves, 33-1 Baldray Park

PORM GUIDE

DURMER GOLF TIME is a strong fancy here back with his Kempton winning partner Pat
Eddary. The trip is perfect and this stiffer course should also ant him judged on the spirfled neure of his win form Mr Speaker at Kempton. The soft ground was hardly ideal for
him at York a formight ago yet he ran right up to his best in second to Rymer's Rescal
with Yeal Vidi Vici, lightfort's Milatake and Duelto behind him. That ground should have
taxoured Duelto, so he's bypassed on this faster surface even with a 9b pull for the Kempton besting and with Franks Detton booked. Veri Vici Vici was serier behind Dummer
Golf Time in the Bath race won by Finel Stab and a nature to a mile what he needs.
The ground was against Mythoris Materiae at York and he meets the risp on 3b better
terms. But his remow win from Euro Sceptic at Beverlay doesn't look good enough to
best Dummer Golf Time even on fast ground. Alfaiteal, 8b better with Dummer Golf Time
on Bath running, also wents a mile judged on his baset third to Serrara Song at Leicester (7th). The visioned Caribbean Star scrambled home in a Thirsk maiden and was only
tourth to Khafaaq (third to Satio at Newcastle) at Lingfield afterwards. Ashby Hill has
slipped down the weights and is worth noting when she returns to a longer trip, while Efferrareacean (first run for 't weeks). Twin Creeks, Tatts Well and Shamaning also look
lighty tried.

4.25 LADBROKE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3YO filles 1m 14yds Penalty Value £4,202
1 1) FRISH LIGHT (USA) (BB) (D) (Chereley Park Stud) M Stoute 9 7
2 -12450 GEE BEE DREAM (47) (Grant & Bownen Limited) A Jarvis 9 1
3 632331 SUMMEROSA (USA) (12) (Mrs. J. Magnier) P Chappis-Hyam 8 T3
4 025010 ROYALE ROSE (FR) (12) (D) (Bodfari Sturi Ltd) A Balley 8 8
5 \$4000 CALIPSO LADY (76) 64's 0 M Wight R Hannon 6.8
6 SD.440 IRTIFA (19) § lamoan Al Makipum P Walaryn 8 6
7 0-630 ELIZA (75) (Geoliney C Greenwood) Lord Hustingdon 8 5
8 4450 SHOSHALOZA (USA) (49) (Or J A Chandler) P R Webber 8 5
8 19:200 MUSCATANA (15) (K.A-Said) B Hills 7 11
- 9 declared -
BETTING: 3-1 Gee Bee Dream, 7-2 Irish Light, 4-1 Sammerosa, 6-1 Iritia, Mastatana, 8-1 Shoshekaza,
40 4 Polymon Larly 49.4 Eller 46.4 Bereile Bree

FORM GUIDE

MUSCATANA must have a fine chance getting weight from them all with 5th claimer Richard

Mutten booked. She looked an improved sort when beating a big field at Catterick on her
reappeagance (only a pound higher rating today) and her comeback nan a fortnight ago
after a two-month rest will have put her right. The soft ground would have been against
her on her two previous starts, as was the at-weather surface after her win. There are
some tasky improvers in this, but Gee Bee Dream is noti-sold on form. Unplaced in stronger
commence at Gibrious Condensed list time start started the assessment as unincless notes and some likely improvers in this, but Gee Bee Dreem is rook-solid on form. Unplaced in stronger company at Grotius Goodwood last time, she started the season on a winning note and then did very well in second to Cosmic Prince at Epsom. The race looks a shade easier for Shoshakoza after her unplaced after the bink! Right Tune at Doncaster, She had shown promise in meldens and a change of rider (Tim Sprake) could also help her cause. Eliza is another who has promised to win a handcap and the trip looks right judged on her third to left Sporing at Sallabury (7) in Juna. Inteh Light's two runs have been in the mud - a debut win from Selectte at Bath and last-of-nire to Right Wing in a stronger event at Ascot. She's back from a rest with Franke Dettort booked so has to be respected even with the big weight. Summances was an easy winner of a malden at Epsom 22 days ago. Whether she now starts to Improve efter previous disappointments remains to be seen. Callypso Lady has done very little this season after a light juvenile campaign, while little, a close fourth to Kalser Kache at Kempton on her respoestrance, as now viscote after two sub-standard efforts.

4.55 WILLOW CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 5f 6yds Penalty Value £3,090

ı	96	TASHKENT (8) (Mee J Runticed) R Simpson 5 9 5
2	642000	VEHTURE CAPITALIST (7) (W G Swiers) D Nicholis 895Alex Gromes
•	(23)60	PALACEGATE YOUCH (16) (CD) (Laura) (Lebura) Ltd) J Berry 7 9 0.5 Roberts (5) 13
	544483	ICE AGE (26) (D) (BF) (Polyr Charter) R Williams 3 & 8
6	086400	ROBELLION (6) (D) (George S Thompson) D Arbuthnol 6 8 7
•	350N2	FEATHERSTONE LANE (8) (D) (D Parker) Miss L States 6 8 8
,	140000	INTIAASH (5) (D) (R Howard Thomas) D Haydh Jones 5 8 6S Drowns
3	553054	JUSTINIANUS (21) (M R Present) J Bridger 5 8 8

	Carrying a penanty on me 17432 500 504.				
SOOD INIPOSING THRE (12) (D) (J F Harms) Gay Kalaway 5 B 5Dans	DNeil 8V				
XXXX NEVER THINK TWICE (12) [KT bory) K hory 4 B 5	Adams 7 Y				
SCOOL LITTLESTONE ROCKET (S) (D) (JI R Balley) W Muir 384	Dayer 16 B				
3000 JOHN O'DREAMS (28) (D) (TP Hillern) Mrs A King 12 8 3	A Clerk 12				
550 LOGIE PERT LAD (208) (Doreki J Smith) J Bridger 5 8 3	istand (7) 4				
COND PALO BLANCO (15) (D) (A S Reid) G L Mbore 683	r Morrie 17				
SOO WINDRUSH BOY (6) (D) (Cyntria Commons) M. R. Bosley 7 8 3 Almee C	Cook (5) 15				
006 DOZEN ROSES (29) (Custom Recing) J Long 3 8 1	C Ruber 5				
034 MA VIELE POUCLIE (B) (D) (Jessey Syndicate) W.G.M. Turner 3 8 0	tuden (S) 6				
© COPSHAGEN (47) (J 8 Step) J Alehust 3 7 13	Cardista 20				
O AMELIA JANE (39) (Price Gyrn) L Normque Hall 3.7 12	Prof. 63 18				
toon SAME TRAFFECY (12) (F2) (F2) (F2) (F2) (F2) (F2) (F2) (F	Block 19 B				

PORM GUIDE

Those drawn high hold a sizeable adventage and Hype Energy, atted by stall 18, could set them all a task. She has ability and the soft ground at Haydock would have been against her last time. But it will still be a minor turn-up it she sees of PALACEGATE TOUCH and Venture Capitalist. The weights favour Venture Capitalist, who was beaten just over four lengths when tenth to Dashing Bute in the Partiand last week. A big field suith the style of racing – the gelding at his best when weaving himself through the pack off a fest pace – though he has yet to win over the minimum trip. Stall nine last's existly helpful to David Nichols' charge, so Patacegate Buch is the choice to follow up his war from Lord High Admiral in the race 12 months ago. Stall 13 gives him every chance and the old boy has still got it in him after proving too good for Lord Civier at Haydock lest month. Pale Stance has shown hits of form for Gary Moore since leaving David Barron and the draw (17) gives her a fighting chance. Ice Age, unlucky two outings ago at Windoor, is tried in binkers but he has drawn a bed stall (two).

Selection: PALACEGATE TOUCH

E	25	LEVY	BOAR	HANI	DICAP	(CLAS	S E)	€4,025	addeo
2	.23	1m 6f	Penalty	Value 9	:3,207	•			
1	03:535	TANAFE	K ALSA) (42	6 (D) (Boy	Shepherd	S Dow 4 10	0	R	Perhana 16
ź	40002	GALAPE	SO CHE RE	ndale Partne	ship Luci (	Gav Kallena	4913.	R 🗠	dien (5) 13
3	450500	CASIM	WATER (23	in IG H Least	nacni A Ner	сопре 6 в	7	S	Огонра 12
4									
5								Pat	
6									
7	0-0440	BEAUCH	AMP LION	(25) (BF) (E	Penser) J	Duniop 3 8 1	B	L	Demon 15
8	600316	VERON	CA FRANCO	(29) (1) (8	(helan) P H	edger 489		,Deer	e O'Nell 1
9	38434	SOVERE	BIGN CREST	(27) (Mrs B	Summer) (	Horgan 4 (	9	Pact	Eddary 4 V
10	0565-1	TARRY (	23) (John Pu	ncelli Gay Kı	alloway 48	9		D O'TOR	once (3) 3
Ħ	545-04	STAR E	(II) (9) (JI	( Wicklows)	D Chappel	385			C Rober 9
2									
13									
14								N Ca	
15									
В	0000080	CHALLE	NGER (25) (				۔۔۔۔ 0		bad (7) 14
				~ 16	declared	-			
Mar	waksit: 7s	f 100b. Tru	e handiceo i	velaht: Bron	heliow ?at	86. Keen W	aters 7st	3b, Challeno	er Oct 130

FORM GUIDE

Pat Eddery reported that LOOKOUT would have preferred a taster pace at Kempton a week ago. The filly still proved too good for Durham after Eddery kicked her on from the home turn and she is going to take some beating again under a small penalty. Beauchamp fourth (seation four lengths) to Lookout in a Liscoster maken. Now 10th better of the exchange fourth (seation four lengths) to Lookout in a Liscoster maken. Now 10th better of the exchange Lion would be interesting it he's ridden from behind today. Castles Burning won a bed race at Brighton, but the hardy Galapino, second to Shooting Light here less time, should go well in this lower grade. Terry, claimed by Gaye Kalleway for £5,000 after winning at Chepatow, is not expected to cutstay Lookout, but Veronica Franco won at Followitone and this filly had earlier shown staying promise for Roger largram. Selection: LOOKOUT

#### YARMOUTH

2.05 Secret Aly 2.35 Guesstimation 3.10 Safey Ana 3.40 Imroz 4.15 Opening Meet 4.45 Sandicliffe 5.15 Brimming

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in back straight).

STALLS: Straight course - stands side; Round course - ireida.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 51 to 1m.

© Leit-hand course, level and tak.

© Course is north of town on A HS, termount rail station to. ADMISSION: CALE 122. Tettersals £550; Family and course anciosure DLSO (CAPs £350). CAR PARKE 21; rest free.

© LEADING TRANNERS: C British 25-171 (335%). H Cacil 22-94
(234%). J Gooden 19-103 (175%). M Bell 5-67 (172%).

● LEADING TRANSERS: C Britishs 23-77 (13.5%), H Cools 22-94 (23.4%), J Gooden 18-103 (17.5%), M Bell 5-65 (17.2%). ● LEADING JOCKEYS: M Hills 30-78 (17.0%), L Dethori 26-132 (18.7%), W Ryan 25-141 (16.3%), Part Eddery 20-90 (22.2%). ● FAVOURITIES: 188 wins in 150 reces (2.4%). ● RAVOURITIES: 188 wins in 150 reces (2.4%). ● Receive Present (2.5%), Generous Present (2.5%), Bobbin (2.3%), Reeds (viscosol) (2.5%), Generous Present (2.5%), Bobbin (2.3%), Flying Permant (4.4%). WINNERS in THE LAST SEVEN DAYS. More LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS; Silver Harrow (4.46) sert 328 miles

nbe from Huntshess Davon. 2.05 GOLDEN JUBILEE TROPHY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,500 added 1 m 2f 21 yds

2.35 NEWTON SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) 23,000 added 1m 2f 21yds

3.10 DANNY WRIGHT HANDICAP (CLASS D) 26,000 added 1m 3yds 

3.40 NORTH SEA STAKES (CLASS C) £7,325 added 6f -54000 DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (14) (CD) P Felgale 7 8 TS... 221-06 MOOHLIGHT PARADISE (91) (D) Second bin Surpor 3 8 10 ... 

— u capanica — u c E.B.F. HALVERGATE MAIDEN STAKES

4.15 (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO fillies 6f DO BENY GIRL (126 C WALS 11 .... ...W Rotan S OD BE NY GRE, (13) C TORRO 11

O DUBLIMA (23) C Dover 8 11

SOLEY HARBOUR W Hagges 8 11

JOLLY HARBOUR W Hagges 8 11

LESS HADARE CLAUDE (15) J Tokes 8 11

LESS HADARE CLAUDE (15) J Tokes 8 11 \_\_\_\_N Day 8 \_\_\_S Sanders 7 \_R Firench (2) 4 MARKE LOUP (FFG) L'Cumeri 8 71 ... OPPRING MEET D'Loder 8 17 ..... WATEN'S EDGE G Wagg 8 11 . - 8 declared -

— a mecanid — BETTING: 11-19 Opening Meet, 4-1 Nario Loup, 5-1 Water's Edgs. 8-1 Joby Harbour, 14-1 Madame Claude, 16-1 Face-Off, 20-1 Dublivia, 25-1 Be My Girl

4.45 SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE SERIES HANDICAP (CLASS E) \$4,200 added 7f 

20125 MEZZORAMIO (27) (CD) K Morgan 5 8 18 ...lo Humann 15 V 24321 WARRIOR KINK (20) (D) C Dwyer 3 8 2 ...A McCarthy (2) 14 250220 DELIGHT OF DAWN (25) (CD) E Wineder 5 8 11 ...A Daly 10 004600 FLYMG PERNANT (27) (D) JM Backy 4 8 1. D Williams (5) 18 8 004642 MAY CUEEN MEGAN (21) Mrs A King 4 8 5 ...G Millingon 13 3500-5 RACING TELEGRAPH (14) (C) C Allen 7 8 2...C Londier 11 20000 CAULITY (21) No Burley 8 1 

### 19 Per rectangers of 7 12... Amends Serdies 9 V = 20 declared = 20 declared = BETTING: 4-1 Seedleidits, 11-2 Mescremio, 13-2 Plues Float, 6-1 Lunch Perty, 10-1 Alfineoris Mistis, Don Pepe, 12-1 Delight Of Deven, Wentor King, 14-1 May Queen Mega, On The Green, 16-1 Karlinda, 20-1 Blowing Away, Silver Harrow, 25-1 Assurato, Chaluz, 23-1 others

5.15 (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2YO 7f 3yds BRIMARING H Cocil 9 0 K Fellon 4
GOLDMASTER (8) W O'Gorner 8 0 Emme O'Gorner 8
HASTATE (47) W Javis 8 0 W Ryen 5
HESTATE (47) W Javis 8 0 S Bandons 7 O LYCIAN 66 Sir M Prescott 8 D .... 

Pilsudski and Peintre Celebre were yesterday the subject of significant support for next month's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and Coral have reacted by cutting both horses to 7-2 from 4-1. Last year's winner Helissio, however, has been completely friendless in the market and the firm have pushed out the French colt to 7-2.

# Abreeze defies drift in odds

Abreeze was a five-length win- trainer to Godolphin's Saeed ner of the Grass Widows Maid- bin Suroor, said the Danzig juen at Sandown yesterday. venile was only one of a num-Despite Frankie Dettori on ber of useful two-year-olds soon board, the colt drifted in the bet- to be unleashed on the race-

The Italian had only to push out the colt once they had found racing room in the straight, emphatically beating pect him to improve on this the 5-4 favourite Dark Moondancer.

Tommy Albertrani, assistant

#### RESULTS

SANDOWN

2.16: 1. BLISS LI Culm) 10-1; 2. High Carry 7-2; 3. Golden Strategy 3-1 7 ran. 11-4 fas Gipsy Moth (201); 1. 2%. (Mrs P Duffield, Seaton). Tole: E1/40; E3/40, E2/40. Dual Forecast: £13:00 CSF: \$413. Tricast: £12:058. Non Runner; Jeck Ruby.
2.45: 1. ARRIEGEZ (Deston) 7-2; 2. Dank Moondancer 5-4 fay; 3. Peak Path 9-1 13 ran. 5, 2. (Seeed bin Suroot, Newmankel, Tole: \$120; E180, E170. E2/40. DP: £3/70 CSP: £120; E180, E170. E2/40. DP: £3/70 CSP: £120; E180, E170. E3/40. E3/50. E180. E170. E3/40. E3/50. E180. E170. E3/40. E3/50. E180. DP: £3/40. E3/50. E3/60. E3/50. E2/80. E180. DP: £3/40. CSP: £1/40/71 Tore: £13/40.
3.50: 1. ARALIANY (J Fortune) 7-1; 2. Mr Paradise 14-1; 3. Sheer Face 14-1; 18 ran. 13-2 tay Errat Chance (Eth), 2. ½. (M Channon, Upper Lambourn). Robe: £10:90; £2:30, £180. DP: £17/20. CSP: £230. E180. E180. DP: £17/20. CSP: £17/20. E180. E1

ran. 2, 1%. (W.R. Herri, Lambourn). Rate: 22630; \$450, Etni, \$190, DF: \$470, CSF: 23827, Trio: £5800, NR: Landon Lights. 4.58: 1, RAPID RELIANCE (R. French) 25-1; 2. Pierpoint 7-2; 3. Juntor Martin 5-1; 13 ren. 11-10 tay Heppy Days Again (8th). 1/4, /4. (D. Esworth, Whitcombe). Totas: 53690; 5370, 518, 5170, DF: 59270, CSF: 20009. This: \$13860, NR: Dernier Cross &

2, 1 (a) CSRC - (ast Gasenth) (lower gast); E220, 6500, 04:0, C2:0, DF: 51730, CSF: E8586. Tricast: E2,558:0. Tho: £76500. NF: Jona Holley. Jackpot: Not worr. £1892786 carried torward to Sandown today. Pleaspot: £1110. Quadpot: £4080.

3.10: 1. MR MAJICA (K Darley) 100-80; 2. Gingerstap 7-1; 3. Mary Commedia 4-9 fax. 5 ran. 1/4, 21/4. (B Meshan, Lambourn). Tota: £4.30; £1.50, £1.70. DF; £7.30, CSF:

Tothe \$4.50; \$1.50, \$1.70, DF; \$7.50, CSF; \$22.79, 3.40; 1, SPENDER (D Holland) 14-1; 2, Likerary Scotledy 12-1; 3, That Man Again 10-1; 13 ran, 9-4 tay Sathamian Beauty, nk, 1 (P Hamis, Berthamiand), Totae \$180; \$3.50, \$3.50, £3.50, 4.15: 1. GYMCRAK PREMIERE (K Fal-ton) 13-8 tay; 2. Shootalan 10-1; 3. Shachi 14-1 19 ran. Mr. 5. (G Holmes, Pickering). Tota: 6260; 5100, 5330, 6560, DF: 61240, CSF: 61750, NR: My Godson.

ting from even money to 7-2. course by the stable.

He said: "Abreeze is big. game and has plenty of talent and a lot of scope. I would exwin." Abreeze received a 25-1 quote from Corals for next year's 2,000 Guineas.

ETULIES INC: 13880L PRI: DETTRE GROSS & Dover Soul 8-25: 1, ROCKTHE BARNEY (A Nichole) 8-1; 2. Law Dancer 20-1; 3. Tajar 18-1; 4. Ring The Chief 8-1 19 ran, 4-1 Sw Zamaske, 2, 1 (M Lisher, East Garaton). Tota: 2890;

YARMOUTH YARMOUTH
2.0s: 1. SEWITCHING LADY (Mertin
Dwyer) 25-1; 2. Lagunta Bay 11-4; 3. Go
Hence 5-2 fav. 7 ran. ½, 2. (D Arbunnot,
Compton), Tota: 25-50; 5770, C160. DF:
55-420. CSF: 275:5.
2.3s: 1. ENTICE (D Holland) 15-8 fav. 2.
Mochine 6-1; 3. Bombackine 6-1 6 ran. ½.
2½. (Sased bin Suroc, Newmarket), Tota:
53:50; £10, £240, £240. DF: £1050. CSF:
215642.

4.45: 1. BELLE DE NUIT (K Felon) 14-1: 2. Chocolate 9-2; 3. Suramer Deef 14-1. 11 ran. 13-8 fev Up At The Top. nk, 1. (3 Mea-han), Toles £15.30; £22.0, £13.0, £3.50. DF: £22.90. CSF: £67.85. Tricast: £832.38. Tric: Ot650, NP: Generous Embrace & Robin Lene. Placepot: 237450, Quadpot: \$12180. Place 6: 554720. Place 5: \$18455. SEDGEFIELD

SEDGEFIELD

2.26: 1. CARRITY CRUSADER (P Nuerr) 8-11 tev; 2. Sealth Legend 5-1; 3.
Peachy Beach 13-2 8 ran. 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, 9 (Mrs M
Reveley) Tota: 12-20; 21-40, C150, 21-30. DF:
13-50. CSF: 55.21 Ticaset: 51-376.
2.55: 1. FATEHALKHAIR (C McCormack) 11-8 fav; 2. Monaco Gold 15-8; 3. Mr
Montague 10-1 12 ran. str-hd, 1, (B Esson), Tota: 52-40, 210, 220, 2120, DF: 2210,
CSF: 3457. His: 25-40, NP: Lord Of The Rings.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Safey Ana (Yarmouth 3.10) N8: Campaspe (Beverley 5.05)

3.30: 1. SUAS LEAT (€ Cataghan) 11-8 fax; 2. Bettery Fired 11-2; 3. Jaunty General 4-1 7 ran. 10; 10; (J.M. Jefferson), Tota: 22:0; 51:0; 53:20. 07: 54:0; 55: 53:2; 4.00: 1. NEWHALL PRINCE (T Bey) 14-1; 2. The Tosater 11-2; 3. Russian Castio 5: 1. 5 ran. 4-5 fax Lockinggin 8, 2; (A Streeter), Tota: 22:10; 53:20, 51:80. DF: 52:10; CSF: 572:25. 1200; 1320, 1380, DF: 12810, CSF: 17225. 4.35; 1. COUNTRY ORCHID (G Lee) 2-5

tay; 2. Nonics 7-1; 3. Six Clertes 4-1.4 ran. 5.11/L. (Mrs M Reudley), Totas £120 DF: £250 CSF: £369 5.05: 1. CORAL ISLAND (P Carberry) 11-10 fav: 2. Paldost 10-1: 3. Sat 14-1, 10 ran. 1%, 10, (J FitzGerald). Total £170; £150, £300, £450, DF: £870, CSF: £1541 Placepot: £2780. Quadpot: £1910. Place 5: £3451. Place 5: £3451.

.]	THE INDE	PENI	TENT
	RACING		
	0891	26	1 +
<u>'</u>	LIVE COMMEN		RESULTS
	SANDOWN	971	981
	BEVERLEY	972	982
	YARMOUTH	973	983
	ALL COURS 0891 2	ES RESI. 619	
	Calls and Silvery princip. To	C. eds. Security	S COA 471

# **BEVERLEY**

HYPERION 2.25 Watchman 2.55 Hobart Junction 3.30 Java Red 4.00 Chieftain 4.35 Alborada 5.05 Campaspe 5.35 Dark Mile 6.05 Scent Of Success GOING: Good to Firm (watering). STALLS: hade.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for St 8, 71 100yds.

© Right-hand, galloping course with very stiff St.

© Course is 1m w of town on A1035. Bus service from Beverley stiffon (Hulf - Scarborough line) 2m. ADMISSION: Club 112. Reternals Ct. Shiver Ring C3. Course 52. CAR PARIC: Course 52 per Cay July 52 per occupant.

CEF OUR E2 PER OCCUPANT.

© LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 27 from 142 (19%), D Loder
23 from 47 (561%), J Berry 23 from 128 (18%) Mrs J Ramadan 25 from 14 (16.7%).

• LEADS\G JOCKEYS: K Derrey 52 from 265 (23.4%). J Wasser

• LEADS\G JOCKEYS: K Derrey 52 from 265 (23.4%). J Carroll 17 from 12 (15.2%) M Ferdon 5 from

23 from 52 (15.1%). J Carroll 17 from 12 (15.2%) M Ferdon 5 from

C3 from SC (ST4) with an 660 races (35.9%)
FAVOURITES: 237 with an 660 races (35.9%)
FLYNCIPETES: Moorlight Fix (2.2) Western
MARCHED FRIST TIME: Moorlight Fix (2.2) Western
MARCHED FRIST TIME: Moorlight Fix (2.2) Western
MARCHED FRIST TIME
LAST SEVEN DAYS: None
LONG-DISTANCE RUMNERS: Snow Curriers (330)
by Lady Harries from Angmenting Park, W. Sussex. en Land (225), Torri HUMBER ESTUARY NURSERY SELLING

2.25 HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 added 2YO 71 100yds 2YO 7Y 100yds

1 0007 ROCKETTE (13) JW Wats 97 JC Carrol 7
2 0007 THE COMERACIONS (16) S.C. Williams 95 K. Derley 17
2 0007 THE COMERACIONS (16) S.C. Williams 95 K. Derley 17
3 0003 FILERONE (29) C. Derlyy 9.0 JF Eges 10 V
5 0003 FILERONE (29) C. Derlyy 9.0 JF Eges 10 V
6 0003 THE LIRE (8) Its IN Minchely 8.13 Deem Middown 3.8
6 000 WATCHEAM (AC) T 100 8.3 S. Whister 1.2
8 000 TON (28) Lord Hurbrychan 8.2 JF Deem Middown 1.9
8 000 WATCHEAM (AC) T 100 8.3 JF Weight 7.2
9 000 WATCHEAM (AC) T 100 8.3 JF Weight 1.9
9 000 WATCHEAM (AC) T 100 JF Winds 8.1 JF Portant 1.9
9 000 WATCHEAM (AC) T 100 JF Winds 8.1 JF Portant 1.9
10 000 WATCHEAM (AC) JF Weight 8.1 JF Portant 1.9
11 000 WATCHEAM (AC) JF Weight 8.1 JF Portant 1.9
12 000 MARDALEY (37) P Hosbur 8.9 JF Reasy (3.1)
13 0000 WATCHEAM (AC) JF Weight 8.9 JF Reasy (3.1)
14 0000 MARDALEY (37) P Hosbur 8.9 JF Reasy (3.1)
15 0000 WATCHEAM (MONEY (78) J Berry 8.8 JF Durron (3.8)
16 0000 WATCHEAM (MONEY (78) J Berry 8.8 JF Durron (3.8)
17 00000 CANDY TWIST (30) Ron Trompson 8.8 Durron Mothat (3.6)
18 00000 WATCHEAM (MONEY (78) J Berry 8.8 JF Hamoduloy, 9-1 The
Consideration, 10-1 Moonlight Fill, Recission, 14-1 Higgswa, 14-1 WhitchConsideration, 10-1 Moonlight Fill, Recission, 14-1 Higgswa, 14-1 WhitchConsideration (10-1 My 84), Carroly Tirist, 20-1 others

2.55 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2YO

4 PICCADILLY (25) T Ethnington 85.
0 ITSMOTTETHANIED (75) A Smith 8 4.
00 MAJOR BALLARY (14) May 5 Energiel 4 ...
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# Ferguson considers the risk factor against bolt from the blue boys

al title (either Czech or Slovak)

figure in Kozak's departure.

A team of unknown Slovakians - apparently rudderless but with the notable scalp of Spartak Moscow to their credit face England's title holders in a Champions' League fixture that will prove vital to Manchester United's European Cup chances. Guy Hodgson reports from

Kosice

There are worse Champions' the club is against me," Kozak League scenarios than to land in a foreign country and find your opponents locked in bickering disarray. Not much is known about FC Kosice, but what can be confidently said about them is the Slovakians have managed to misplace their coach in between the weekend and tonight's match against Manchester United.

The official reason for Jan Kozak's resignation is ill health although local reports suggest any malady has been caused by internal politics. "Someone in

told a Slovakian newspaper. "I have left so the players do not get involved in a power struggle."

Which would be music to the ears of United's manager, Alex Ferguson, if his experience against relative unknowns in Europe did not make him wary. Galarasaray were not household names until they dumped United out of the European Cup while Rotor Volgograd's one excursion away from obscurity came when they conjured a Uefa Cup win on away goals at Old Trafford two years ago.

Kosice come from the same assistant, Jan Bodnar, although Moscow you've laid your cre- win the competition this time, that could be temporary. "He dentials on the plate." bolt-from-the-blue territory. The first side from Slovakia to is coach until the president of reach the Champions' League the club comes back from a holproper, they were reformed iday in the United States," a only five years ago and became spokesman said ominously yesthe first side from Slovakia's terday. "Then it will be sorted second city to take the nation-

Troubled or not, Ferguson in 100 years of trying this sumhas been impressed with a team mer. Given that they also dewho supplied six players for the feated Spartak Moscow to join Slovakian national side last United, Juventus and Feyenoweek. "Like a lot of Eastern bloc ord in Group B, it can be safeteams they are very stubborn," said that results did not he said, "with some good technical players and others who are His successor will be his

Equally, if you lose five

times in the Champions' League, including to Fenerbance at home, your credentials to win the European Cup are suspect. United managed to do the above but reach the semifinals last season and although the League phase of the competition is unquestionably harder-with only the group winners certain of going through - Ferguson is confident of doing better. Asked yesterday if his very strong. If you beat Spartak squad was stronger placed to

the United manager replied with an unequivocal "yes".

About his team he is less sure. Ryan Giggs' pulled hamstring, along with injuries to David May, Ronny Johnson, Jordi Cruyff and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, had stripped his squad to what he described as "the bare bones" although one man's skeleton is another man's figure of corpulence as Ferguson has Andy Cole and Paul Scholes as able deputies. Also in the 19-strong party is Teddy Sheringham, who is recovering

from broken ribs diagnosed a little over a week ago as needing three weeks' of rest to heal. "He's in consideration," Ferguson said. "Sometimes you take risks in a situation we're in."

As indeed must United tonight if they are going to finish ahead of a Juventus side who confined them to second place in their group last season. A defeat here would be calami-

# Spanish giants hold no fears for Albert

Barcelona visit St James' Park tonight, giving Newcastle a harsh introduction to the Champions' League. The Toon faithful will be relying on the experience of Philippe Albert, who has seen it all before in his days at Anderlecht. The Belgian defender is relishing the

Newcastle United may not have been this particular way before but Philippe Albert has. It was back in 1993, in fact, in the good old days when the European Cup did not overrunneth with runners-up, that the Belgian played his first game in the Champions' League. It was, he recalled with a wry smile, supposed to be the kind of baptism of fire he is expected to endure with Newcastle when Barcelona arrive at St James' Park.

Yes, it was a similar situation," Albert said, recalling the night Milan, finalists in three of the preceding five seasons, lined up in Brussels against Ander- cent acquisition. crown that season, bulldozing Barcelona 4-0 in the Athens final, but they came close to being humbled by the Belgian match of their campaign.

"People were talking about by how many goals we were going to lose," Albert said, "but at the end of the game Milan were happy with a goalless draw. We should have beaten them.

"That is why I am looking forward to playing Barcelona. At home, with a fantastic crowd behind us, anything is possible. With good discipline and with a big heart, we are capable of

beating anybody." With poor discipline, and with hearts possibly set on tonight instead. Newcastle were on the suffering end of an upset themselves at St James' Park on Saturday, Not that Al- to look beyond Barcelona's visbert needs any reminding. It was his failure to mark the debutant of acquaintance with an adver-

downfall against Wimbledon.

To be fair, Albert was due a bad game. As the middle man in a new three-man central defensive formation, between Alessandro Pistone and Stuart Pearce, the man John Beresford christened "Prince" Albert had been in particularly regal form in the opening weeks of the season - the kind of commanding form which once moved Johann Cruyff to hail him as a latter-day Ruud Krol.

Cruyff, indeed, considered the factory worker from the Ardennes such a natural total footballer he twice attempted to sign him for Barcelona. On the first occasion, during the Champions' League campaign of 1993-94, Anderlecht were unwilling to part with their prized asset. On the second, the following winter, Newcastle were clamped to his head. not open to offers for their re-

# BY SIMON **TURNBULL**

went on to lift the continental are supposed to be interested you do not always know if it is true or not." Albert said. "To be honest, I was flattered to see my name linked to such a big club champions in the opening but even when I was reading those kind of stories I was hapa Newcastle player for the next three seasons.3

Kevin Keegan paid 131m to make Albert a Newcastle player - 131m Belgian francs, that is (£2.65m in Sterling) - after defender score for his country Germany in the 1994 World Cup ence now." finals. Having played against Spain in Italia '90, Albert could be involved in his third World at least. He is unwilling, though, it to Tyneside and the renewal

Carl Cort which led to the 3-1 sary from Newcastle's last European campaign.

Anderson Da Silva, in fact, was the last opposition player to score a winning goal at St James' Park before Chris Perry and Efan Ekoku followed up Cort's equalised goal in Wimbledon's victory four days ago. Da Silva did so for a Monaco team that sneaked a 1-0 win on Typeside before overwhelming Newcastle 3-0 in Monte Carlo in the second leg of a Uefa Cup ouarter-final.

The Brazilian centre-forward returns to Tyneside tonight as a £13m new kid on the Nou Camp block and better known to the football world as "Sonny" Anderson. The sobriquet, in point of fact, is "Sony", having been bestowed by colleagues in his Marseille days because a walkman seemed permanently

"I know he scored at St James' Park," Albert said, "but he didn't impress me. I hope he has the same type of game here. We were unlucky against Monaco because we were without a striker in the home leg. We had to play Rob Lee up front. If we had played with Alan Shearer, Les Ferdinand or Tino Asprilia we would have beaten damage here, though we were well beaten in Monaco.

"It is similar now. I'm sure when we go to Barcelona Anderson will be a danger, with 110,000 supporters behind him. But we don't have to be as afraid py to be a Newcastle player. of him here. I'm sure we will do Hopefully, touch wood, I will be well against him and I am sure we will do well against Bar-

"People are saying that there are not a lot of us who have played in the Champions' League, but it is the same if you watching the counter-attacking are playing with your national team, and we have a lot of playagainst the Netherlands and ers with international experi-

None more so than Stuart Pearce, whose hamstrung absence precipitated Newcastle's. Cup next summer. Belgium be- and Albert's, fall from grace on ing certain of a play-off chance Saturday. Given some vital Psycho-therapy, the Magpies and their princely Belgian may yet be flying high in Europe



# Dalglish pragmatic about taking on a Catalonian institution

Newcastle United may have passionate fans but such fervour pales alongside the obsessions that surround Barcelona and burden their coach. Simon Turnbull reports

The team picture on page 19 of the programme for what the Evening Chronicle has dubbed Newcastle United's "Match of the Century" depicts Kenny playing a club whose home not playing tradition and history. in itself for Newcastle. For Van day. SAFC groundstaff."

Dalglish and his players with the Tyne Bridge arcing above them. Either a trick of photographic deception has been played or the boys in black and white are able not just to walk upon water but can stand on it, too.

Such has been the advance homage paid to the visitors from Catalonia, it would seem that Newcastle may indeed need miraculous powers when they make their Champions' League debut at St James' Park tonight. They are, after all,

the population of Norwich, whose season ticket holder No 108,000 happens to be the Pope, who run an art competition of such prestige Salvador Dali once entered, and whose squad has been valued at £400m.

According to the legend, and the club motto, Newcastle are playing "more than a club." Not that Dalglish sees it quite the same way. "We'll give them the utmost respect," the Newcastle manager said, "but we're

team as it is at the moment - a good side with a new manager who has brought a new system that might still be a bit strange to one or two of his players."

Dalglish is not just one of football's great pragmatists. He happens to have won the European Cup three times, which is twice more than the venerable Barca and, indeed, their new guiding light, the former Ajax coach Louis van Gaal.

Tonight's match is a trophy

games attract the equivalent of We're playing the Barcelona Gaal, though, there was a reminder yesterday that nothing short of emulating Johan Cruyff, by putting the European Cup in the Nou Camp cabinet, is likely to keep him as Barça coach beyond next season.

Daubed on a board at New Ferens Park, the home of Durham City and Sunderland reserves, where the Dutchman had taken his players to stretch their expensively-insured legs was the message: "Welcome Home Bobby. All the best for Wednes-

Unfortunately for the Sunderland club groundsmen, who prepare both the first-team and second-team pitches, Bobby Robson, a native of Durham, was in Cairo watching the Under-17 World Championship tournament in his capacity as Barcelona's head of recruitment. Lifting the European Cup-Winners' Cup and the Spanish Cup last season was not enough to keep the English

coach in the driving seat. Job security was the theme

ference Robson's successor conducted at Durham City club bar, the coaches Jorge Valdano (Valencia) and Vincente Cantatore (Valladolid) having been sacked three games into the season. Barça's Champions' League opponents did get a mention, though it was clear the prospect of facing Newcastle had not kept Van Gaal awake at night. "I always sleep well," he

said, and with good reason. He does have Ivan de la Peña and of the Anglo-Spanish press con-mention the Pope on his side. 24 hours with them - sometimes

tous to their hopes, while the days when a dirge of a draw was considered a good result away from home in Europe could be

#### Francis calls for weekend internationals

Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, has called for international matches to be played at weekends to avoid players returning late for League games.

Francis believes that midweek internationals leave clubs at a disadvantage when players report back for domestic duty - often only 24 hours before weekend league fixtures. But he also feels playing World Cup or European Championship ties on Saturdays would also allow the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, to have the extra time he is seeking with his players the day after an international.

"I believe players could play for their club on a Saturday. meet up with their country on a Sunday, have virtually the same preparation time as now and play the international the following Saturday," Francis said. "Then, in England's case, Glenn Hoddle could have his day with the squad on Sunday to analyse things and then the players would report back to their clubs on the Monday with a full week to prepare for the following weekend's fixtures.

"But as things stand club managers often have players reporting back on the Friday before the Saturday game, possibly after a long flight which with no time to prepare properly - and yet you are judged all the time be results.

"Tottenham played Arsenal a fortnight ago on a Saturday and then the international players left to go to their various countries and we didn't have the chance to work again with them until last Friday - 24 hours before the game at Leicester.

"If one or two players are away with their club then it is not a problem but when, as in our case, there were 14 players away for two weeks, it doesn't give me - or any manager in the same boat - a lot of time

"It also gives little niggles and knocks little time to recover whereas having a full week after the international before playing again would enable problems to clear up and leave players not feeling jaded.

You have got to try and be fair to club and international managers whose interests cut across each other now and create a level playing field for both which I think having the internationals at the weekend would belo to create."

Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, expressed similar concerns after Faustino Asprilla turned up just an hour before the game against Bolton last Saturday after being on World Cup duty for Colombia.

"Internationals should be played on Saturdays, The European Championships could be the right time to do it. Everyone throughout Europe, I believe, will think the same way," he said. "At the moment countries have players for five or sev-Rivaldo in his team, not to en days and we sometimes get

# Sherwood urges his Blackburn team-mates to avoid complacency

burn team-mates ahead of today's Coca-Cola Cup second round first leg tie against their North End, at Ewood Park: "Remember Stockport."

The then-Second division

side beat Rovers 1-0 in their

game in charge. Lancashire rivals, Preston manager, has rejuvenated the

club since he took over in the summer but the club captain Sherwood, back after an appendix operation, said: "We and Colin Hendry for the

Tim Sherwood yesterday issued Park last October thanks to an it because it's their Cup final. suffer a dead leg against Leeds needed little motivation for. a note of caution to his Black- own-goal from Sherwood, in If we play anything like we can, on Sunday. what was Ray Harford's last we should win the game but if we get complacent, they could

when we lost to Stockport." Hodgson has rested Stéphane Henchoz, Jason Wilcox, Garry Flitcroft, Patrick Valery

Martin Dahlin hopes to shrug off a cold and either Flit-

Roy Hodgson, the Rovers catch us as you saw last season croft or Wilcox will play if he players are really looking foris ruled out but Alan Fettis is ward to playing against qualicup-tied. Ian Pearce returns af- ty opposition." ter a calf injury

Gary Peters, the Preston signing from Manchester Unitmanager, declared that this ed, Michael Appleton, is third-round meeting at Ewood have got to get ourselves up for match, though Hendry did was one match his players doubtful with a calf injury.

Preston's record £500,000

The game against Blackburn

will lift all the lads," he said.

"It's a huge game and the

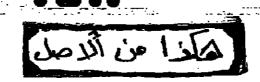
The England striker, Les Ferdinand, is a surprise inclusion in the 21-man squad named by Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, for their game with Carlisle, despite suffering from a stomach muscle injury. Francis said: "Les will see a specialist in the morning but I'm refusing to rule him out at the mo-

David Howells will have a land Road - the last time the two late fitness test on a back injury, as will Chris Armstrong on a groin strain.

Bristol City, of the Second Division, will be hoping history repeats itself when they travel to Elland Road for their meeting with Leeds. City beat the thenmighty Leeds 1-0 in an FA Cup

sides met in a cup competition. City will be boosted by the return of the striker Steve Torpey.

who starts his first game since suffering concussion on the opening day of the season. Their Welsh international defender Rob Edwards faces a late test on a dead leg, but Sean Dyche fifth-round replay in 1974 at Elis ruled out after knee surgery.



# **Everton offered** cut-price Ravanelli

recruit from Middlesbrough,

who was left out of their squad

for last night's Coca-Cola Cup

tie at Scunthorpe after a heat-

ed row with Kendall at the

out at Derby on Saturday and

further enraged when he was

called on Barmby, Everton's

ago, may now be allowed to go

Bolton's Premiership match

against Manchester United on

Saturday after he was knocked

ground collision with his team-

mate Jamie Pollock. Beardsley

was ruled out of last night's

Wright should discover today

the date of his Football Asso-

ciation disciplinary hearing, fol-

lowing the controversial scenes

The Arsenal striker lan

Peter Beardsley could miss

Barmby was upset to be left

Middlesbrough yesterday of-fered Fabrizio Ravanelli to Everton for the reduced price of £5m plus Graham Stuart. However, the Merseyside club did not agree to those terms and may wait until the price comes down even further.

With the Italian striker currently back home trying to find not the first substitute to be a Series A club interested in him and apparently not part of record signing less than a year Boro's plans, Everton's position is a strong one, though after for a reduced fee. their poor start to the season their manager Howard Kendall has been chasing a striker.

Kendall has also been linked with Manchester City's Uwe unconscious in a training Rösler, but his chairman, Peter Johson, has been lobbying for the bigger name of Ravanelli.

is calls

eekend

nationals

Everton's two previous at- Coca-Cola Cup second-round tempts to sign Ravanelli stalled match at Leyton Orient. because of the Italian's demands over personal terms, but that could be less of a hurdie with the player now auxious to get back to action.

Everton could raise funds by at the end of the game at Leiselling Nick Barmby, another cester City three weeks ago.

# World Cup bid backed

English footballers have long ways, the meeting pledged supbeen known for their industry but industry, until recently, had never expressed any reciprocal affection for the game. In the ambassadors of the bid. More heady post-Euro 96 world all that has changed and England's World Cup 2006 bid enters a there will also be some direct finew phase this week with the blessing of business behind it.

That emerged from a meeting involving 20 industrialists held last week. Chaired by Sir Confederation of British Industry and chairman of British Air-

port in cash, kind and goodwill. Goodwill means making English businessmen unofficial practical help involves, for example, free flights from BA and nancial assistance which should take the Football Association's "war chest" past the £10m mark.

England are one of several candidates, notably South Colin Marshall, president of the Africa and Germany, for Fifa to choose from in 2000.

**HOCKEY** 

#### England ready for tough start

England open their Junior we lack a degree of experience," World Cup programme this Royce said. National Stadium against Japan. Jon Royce, the England coach, is not known for making predictions but he will be aware that, if his team is to reach Friday week's semi-finals, they must achieve convincing results in their opening games.

"We have prepared as professionally as possible, but comnared to some of the other sides

Milton Keynes Royce's preparations have been handicapped by injuries to key players, but the good news is that he will be able to select from a fully-fit squad. IrOm a rumy-on squate.

ENGLAND SQUAD: B Gerrard (unattached, capt), J Evernett, S Humphries, D

Blathewa, P Wicton (all Carterbury), M
Pearry, Marpetet Kocher (both Reading),

M Johnson (Carnock), J Ebeworth, D Hayden (both Teddington), N Taylor (Hourslow),

A Strooms (Southgate), A Boyae (Loves),

T Matthewa, R Irvine (Oddrd Univ), R Starap

(Beestion).

- Bill Colwill



Unorthodox visionary: Clive Woodward is the RFU's choice to lead England Photograph: David Rogers/Allsport

# The ruthless Woodward way

It took them an interminable amount of time and caused them no end of embarrassment, but English rugby's top brass finally appointed their new national coach yesterday ~ a bright, . ambitious fortysomething with a mind of his own and a willingness to speak it. Chris Hewett charts Clive Woodward's transformation from maverick to main man

Jack Rowell ruffled so many Rugby Football Union feathers and upset the Twickenham applecart with such frequency during the contentions three rugby." Well, thanks, Geoff. Nothing and a half years he spent as England's manager-cum-coach that those inhabdom" must have yearned for a simple, servile, kow-towing yes man as his replacement. They can carry on dream-Woodward is no one's idea of a bootlicking sycophant.

Quite the opposite, in fact. Woodward's imaginative rugby philosophy may have little in common with the instinctive pragmatism of his predecessor - after all, the former Lions cen-falling out with the committee-room tre is, at 41, the best part of 20 years suits, and, latterly, Bath. younger than Big Jack - but, in one very important sense, Rowellism remains the flavour of the epoch. The new boy will hold no truck with excessive outside and to hell with the consequences.

To many of the great and good who highways and byways of the English

Anwar Chowdhry, president

of the International Amateur

Boxing Association, said: "We

unique occasion - a boxing

competition in the name of the

greatest of the great boxers

the world has ever produced. It

is my wish and desire that this

tournament should become an

Nearly 100 boxers from

more than 20 nations are to

compete in the tournament,

including the United States

team's top-ranked boxers in 11

a tribute to amateur boxing, fea-

turing the first appearance of

Mike Tyson and Evander Holy-

field together since their heavy-

weight title fight in June in

which Tyson was disqualified for

twice biting Holyfield on the ear.

The week will be capped by

annual feature."

of 12 weight classes.

game, Woodward is a shot in the dark. To Geoff Cooke, who coached Will Carling's side to two Grand Slams and a World Cup final in the early years of this decade, he is not even that. "I worry about his volatility - he's up and down and I have question marks about him," Cooke told Rugby News.

"Someone recently said how valuable it was that Clive had performed at international level and therefore understood the game. My view is: so what? That was in 1980; the fact that he was an exciting centre doesn't mean he can motivate a grizzled old prop forward. Most outstanding performers are selfish by nature and possess the arrogance you need to reach the top. Those arenot necessarily the qualifications for a good coach; some people can't coach for toffee, no matter bow well they know like getting your retaliation in first.

Woodward will not bat an eyelid in iting the higher echelons of "old fart- the face of that sort of premature knifewielding. He had the confidence to plough his own highly individual furrow during a 21-cap England career ing over their double gins, for Clive that also earned him two Lions Test appearances in South Africa in 1980 and has continued in that self-assured vein throughout a successful business career - he owns a computer leasing company - and his coaching stints at Henley, London Irish, whom he left after

> He flatly refused to take a penny from London Irish during a halcyon 1995-96 campaign in which they won the Courage League Two title and agreement" with Bath be honoured. sure is really on."

As recently as 18 months ago, indeed, he believed he had shot his bolt with the national set-up. "I've put my ideas to the RFU, but I get the impression they've stamped the word 'maverick' on my folder and returned it to the bottom of the heap," he said at the time. But he stuck to his guns, preaching the gospel of 15-man rugby to forwards as well as backs. "I hate the label 'backs specialist' because the trick is to get the pack buying into the expansive approach. Ball-playing forwards are the key; you can't tell me there aren't eight in the whole of England who fit the bill."

Having played his last England international in 1984, Woodward spent two instructive seasons with Manly, the crack Sydney club side. He remains an admirer of the Wallaby system, under which the best players are concentrated into three provincial sides, and has called for a significant pruning of England's representative network.

"All we need below the full England side is two divisions, north and south, who would play against each other a couple of times a season," he once said. "Selection should be brutal, ruthless, because we need to see the best players competing face to face. The only people in rugby who know who can play and who can't are the coaches and the players, not the trilbies in the stand."

It is an unforgiving, confrontational attitude but then this is an unforgiving sort of job. Win or lose, England will be given carte blanche to play with vision and panache. "If we want to win a World Cup," the new coach is fond interference; things will be done his way reached the semi-final of the Pilking- of saying, "we have to remove the fear ton Cup. He also took a singular factor. If players are confident enough stance when first approached by Eng- to take risks week in, week out, we circulate and pontificate along the land, insisting that his "gentlemen's might just see them do it when the pres-

#### RUGBY LEAGUE

# Forshaw's dreams come true

Mike Forshaw, who was playing second XV rugby union at Saracens a few months ago, had a double cause for celebration over his dramatically revived league career yesterday.

The Bradford Bulls' second-row was named in both Great Britain's "train on" squad for the series against Australia and in the Dream Team based on form in Super League this season. That was despite the former Wigan, Wakefield and Leeds player not arriving at Odsal until May.

"To be honest, he has done even better than I thought he would," the Bulls' coach, Matthew Elliott, said. "He arrived as a player with a good work ethic, but there were one or two aspects of his game that needed attention and he addressed them immediately.

"I'm pleased and proud for him, but there is a lot of improvement left in him yet." Forshaw only played a hand-

ful of first-team games for Saracens, "I went because I was fed

up at Leeds at the time, but I didn't particularly enjoy it at Saracens," he said. "I think you have to be brought up in the game. When I arrived at Bradford, my only objective was to hold my place in the team. I think I have benefited from playing with such good players and maturing myself as a player."

Following Bradford's Premiership defeat by Castleford on Sunday, Forshaw is joined in Great Britain's cumulative squad by five of his Bulls teammates. Leeds also have six in the squad, including the versatile young forward Terry Newton and the winger Paul Sterling, who has been enjoying an Indian summer at the age of 33.

The London Broncos' seasoned internationals, Shaun Edwards and Martin Offiah, are included, as are five players from Salford, who had such a good first season in Super League. The Dream Team is dominated by Bradford players, with another four alongside Forshaw.

- Dave Hadfield

GOLF

#### Martin out of Masters

Miguel Angel Martin, out of action since 18 July and dropped from Europe's Ryder Cup team, has withdrawn from this week's One2One British Masters at the Forest of Arden.

The 35-year-old, replaced by Jose Maria Olazabai as the last automatic qualifier, had fought for a delay in the decision to axe him. But having rejected an order from the Ryder Cup committee to attend a fitness test on

ago, he failed his own one in Madrid on Monday. "I tried to hit balls but couldn't do it properly," he said.

Martin added that he may still come to the Forest of Arden to attend a meeting. The tour's tournament committee meets today and the Frenchman Jean Van de Velde has said he wants the matter discussed. Martin's lawyers are in the process of a claim for compensation for loss his injured left wrist two weeks of potential earnings.

MOTOR RACING

# Coulthard called to testify

The lawyer defending Frank Michele Alboreto yesterday manslaughter over the death of the steering wheel. Ayrton Senna has called for David Coulthard to give his testimony when the trial resumed in Italy yesterday.

Oreste Dominioni called for Coulthard, a former Williams driver now with McLaren, beformer Formula One driver crash."

Williams against charges of over the amount of flexing of

Alboreto told the court that he believed mechanical failure caused the crash.

"On that bend, you don't go off unless there's a mechanical failure." Alboreto said. "Having seen the pictures from Sencause he believes that a state- na's car, I'm even more ment given by the Scot convinced it was a technical contradicts one made by Italy's problem which caused the

#### TODAY'S FIXTURES

# TENNIS

#### Smith breaks into top 100

Sam Smith has become the first British woman to reach the world's top 100 for three years in the latest list issued by the Women's Tennis Association.

The 25-year-old from Essex, who has been Britain's No 1 for the past 11 months, has gone from 100 to a career-high 97 and, though this is far below the exploits of Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman, it is a further houst for the domestic game.

The last British woman to be ranked in the top 100 was Brighton's Clare Wood on September 26, 1994. Smith originally gained a career-high ranking of 103 in September 1991 while still only 19, but then gave up the game to go to university and did not return to the circuit until October 1995.

At the US Open two weeks ago that Smith took a big step up the rankings by winning three matches in qualifying and one in the main draw.

# TODAY'S NUMBER

2

The number of times in 75 years that the grass on Wimbledon's Centre Court has been relaid. The grass was badly torn up during this year's tournament, one of the wettest in history, so some specially grown two-year-old turf from Yorkshire has been transplanted to SW19.

## Amateur ranks salute Ali

BOXING

The city of Louisville welcomed home its most beloved son this week to inaugurate an international amateur tournament that are proud to be here on this

bears his name. Slowly, Muhammad Ali rose, smiled and rang the ringside bell three times to signal the opening of the first Muhammad Ali Cup International Amateur Challenge at the Commonwealth Convention Center.

Members of the 21 countries represented in the event marched into the arena bearing the flags of their home nations. The event is expected to

raise more than \$1m (£600,000) for a planned Ali museum and education center in Louisville. It also will help determine members of the US team that will compete at the World Championships in Budapest, Hungary. in October.

ICE HOCKEY

# All-Stars take on the rest

All-Star game this season will didates on the ballot with five. have an international flavour Their goalkeeper, Martin with the North American All- Brodeur, the defenders Scott Stars taking on the World All-

The game will be played on Sunday 18 January in Vancouver, just three weeks before many of the same players compete in the Winter Olympics in

Nagano, Japan. Eight countries will be represented on the World All-Stars ballot - the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany. Latvia, Russia, Slovakia, Swe-

den and Ukraine. A total of 102 players appear on the All-Star ballot. The New

The National Hockey League's Jersey Devils have the most can-Stevens and Scott Niedermayer, the centre Doug Gilmour and the winger Bill Guerin are the Devils listed.

San Jose's Mike Vernon and Edmonton's Curtis Joseph, two of the NHL's top goalkeepers last season, were not among the six keepers listed on the ballot. Vernon led Detroit to the Stanley Cup and won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the playoff MVP, while Joseph was Canada's top keeper last year in the World Cup of Hockey tournament.

DAISEDUM AMERICAN LEAGUE: Chicago White Sox 3 Cleveland 8; Anahelm 3 Karasas City 2; Osldand 5 Detroit 5; Minaules 1 Boston 2; Texas 1 Minasota 11; Seattle 3 Toronto 2; Baltimore 2 New York Yankees 8 SEMINOR 2 New York Yankees 5
MATIONAL LEAGUE! Colorado 4 Atlanta D;
Cincinnati 6 Philadelphia 4; Chicago Cubs 3
Pitsburgh 2; St Louis 10 San Diago 4; New
York Mets 1 Montreal 0; Florida 5 San Francisco 4; Los Angeles 4 Housion 3 (10 innings).

American football

SPORTING DIGEST

Baseball

London Towers have signed 23-year-old English guard Andrew Brook fol-lowing his graduation from Emory Riddle College in Georgia, USA, where he averaged 18 points a game.

Robert McCracken, the Common-wealth middleweight champion, is to contast a timel eliminator for the World Boxing Council world title after he knocked out the American Joe Stevens after just 100 seconds of the first round in Maryland at the weekend. He will now meet Stephen Wileth in an eliminator with the winner facing Kei-th Holmes, the WBC world champion.

Cricket ban for their championship match with Glamorgan starting at Taunton to-

morrow.

The Glamorgan opener Steve James has won the 1967 Player of the Year award at the annual Professional Cricketers' Association awards.

Next year's Commonwealth Games cricket tournament, which will go ahead without England and West indies, could be weakened further since Australia and Pakistan may send A teams because of the likely clash with Australias tour to Pakistan. teams Decause of the many case I was Australia's tour to Pakister.

SECOND II CHAMPONISHP Second day of three; Gid Trafford: Lance 462 for 6 dec (G D Lloyd 252, P C Micrown 74, 9 P Trafford 52; Labellanding 173 (A Habib 69 and 69 for 2 (D

1998 NATWEST TROPHY DRAW: First round: Cheshira v Essex, Derbyshie v Cumberland, De-von v Vorlethe, Dorset v Hampslerk, Glemorgan v Bedforderne, Glouchesserine v Northampv Deutschen (Smr v Cambridgering, Lancashire v Su-per, Lebestperinte v Stationchine, Middleser v Herefordhire, Minor Counties Wales v Notting-hermatine, Norfale v Durham, Scoland v Worces-terahire, Somestet v Netherlander, Surrey v Buckinghamatine, Worwelshire v Indexed, Matab-de to be played 25 or 24 June. Second round: Dones or Hermatine v Chesiner of Essex, Glamorpan or Beddordshire v Lebesterahire or Staffordhire, Glouesterahire or Mintacoptin-ality v Surrey or Buckinghamatine, Lancashire or Supera v Disson or Worshire, Middlesex v Here-fordahire v Norfale or Durham, Minter Caundes Weles or Noticelandshire v Semester or Nation-lands. Scottend or Worsesensthire v Durhama-lands. idgestire, Lanca

Cycling
TOUR OF SPAIN 11th stage (Almandrale)s to
Pleastrols, 194. Store) Leading positions: 1 J
Scorats (Cz Rep) 4th 2tmin 33eac; 2 M Forcrists (In, 3 L Lababari (Fr), 4 S Notroy (Rus), 5
M Gordi (Ru, 8 C Carrin (I) at some large. Overdistrictinger: 1 A Zülle (Swit) 48 2013, 2 C Ovfaux (Swit) at 32 acc; 3 F Scorath (Sh) 2 rb;
14sac; 4 C Holler (Dwi) 2-80; 5 Y Ledancia (Fr)
3-15; 8 D Clavaro (Sp) 3-50

Equestrianism Simon Brooks-Ward, director of the Roy-af Windsor Horse Show, reacted angrily to yesterday's news that the 1998 British Nations Cup will return to Hick-stead. Windsor staged the contest at short notice this year, after the first Hickstead meeting was cancelled, and it was a great success. "Memories are ex-tremely short." Brooks-Ward sald of the British Show Jumping Association's Exacutive Committee, which decides

Football Bill Fotherby, the former Laeds chair-man, has resigned after 16 years on the board at Elland Road to follow oth-

David Lloyd, the new owner of Hull City.

Cambridge's Russell Claydon will make his England debut in the Alfred Durhit Cup at St Andrews on 16-19 Oc-tober. The 31-year-old joins Lae West-wood and Mark James because Nick Paido has, for the fourth successive

Petito Tias, for the floor in Successive year, decided not to play.

ALFRED DUNHILL CUP TEAMS for Andrews, 16-19 October; Argentine Parge Cabran, Robert Allenby, Strant Appleby, Saver Ethingtoni, England Russel Cabran, Mark Jemes, Lee Weet, wood, Rames Maker Sarry, Fabrica Berkut, Jem Hon, de Veldel, Garmany (Allender Ceita. land Prussel Carlyon, Mart, James, Low veer-wood, Ramoe (Maist Parry, Patrice Brimust, Jean-Van de Velde), Germany (Hattander Calles, Thomas Gogeis, Sven Struven, Ireland (Damen Carles, Packaly Harmington, Peul McCarley), Jamen (Stingerman Hajaki, Mobuhin Satio, Bulleans Matamatek, Mew Zaseland (Sarven Ale-et, Michael Long, Farari, Nobiol), Sociatiand (Gor-don Brand Jr., Colin Montgomeria, Reymond Russell, South Africa (Erms Els, David Frost, Robiel Goosen), South Korea (Karg Welch-soon, Mry Jong-Juck, Mo Joony-kyung, Spalin (pra-cho Garrich, Majust Angel Menth, Use Matte Clar-shall, Sweden (Joseph Hengyman, Per-Unit Johansson, Jeaper Parmaviki, Jamens (Heeh Yu-shu, Chen Lison)-Issi, Lu Hel-chuent, (Colled States) (Erad Fatton, Justin Leonard, Mark Otkeen), Zootasbere (Cony Johnstone, Mark Me-Nuty, Nick Price).

Motor racing Emerson Fittipaldi has been released from the hospital following back surgery, and the champion driver has returned to Florida for a long recovery.

Rugby League Chris Thoman, a scrum-half with the junior club Newcastle Eagles, has become the first player from the North-East to sign for a Super League club by agreeing a deal with Sheffield Eagles. The Royal Navy play their first competitive rupby isague match tonight, facing a BARILA Under-23 side in Portsmouth.

COTH, FOREIGN (FREIGNICE), FRIEND (FREIGH), GREAT BRITTAIN TRAIN-ON SOLIDA ADDI-TIONS: Bredford Buller Fostney, McDemon, Loveen, McHamers, Seates, Spruce, Lovedon Broncos: Edwards, Offlinh, Salibord: Biskeley, McAucy, Broedbart, Bredhury, Neybo: Leeds: Cummar, Fairel, Hairis, Morley, Newbox, Starting, MONDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Stones Pre-ership Quarter-final; Wigen 38 Leeds 22.

Rugby Union

SITTIO
ALITHAN GRAND TOURNAMENT (Rilyo)
10th day of 15: Minujasio jeon 6, lost 6 to Meincarri 6-31, Aldrochu 6-4 iz Minismojo 4-61; Kitalsochich 6-4 th Kohoyu 6-61; Chychalla 6-4
th Herramonthina 5-65; Kotorisinki (7-5) th
Rochinoseku (6-61; Kushimauni 6-63 th
Rochinoseku (6-61; Kushimauni 6-63 th
Associo (4-61; Associatios 6-5) th Sarto 551: Minisch (6-6) th Saksimira 6-8-1 th
Cohinoseku (6-61; Kushimauni 6-7)
th Tochinoseku 6-7, Adminisma 8-7) th
Tochinoseku 6-8-5; Rochizuma (7-6) th
Tomicosuga (4-61; Westinoteku 6-7) th Kotorismanta 6-7; Telesconder (7-6) th Kotorismanta 6-7; Telesconder (7-6) th Kotorismanta 6-7; Telesconder (7-6) th KoTilliamontan 6-7) th Tochinoseku (6-7);
Telesconder (6-7) th Tochinoseku (6-7); **Tennis** 

Morocco could be kicked out of the Davis Cup for refusing to play in Israel this week. Morocco cited security concerns for for feiting the match, while Israel blamed posities for the decision. The International Tennis Federation said the Davis Cup Committee would discuss any sendings to be taken

MONDAY'S LATE RESULT: Representative metals; Commail 34 Cranshiya Visiah XV 48.

said the Devis Cup Committee would discuss any sanctions to be taken against Morocco at its next scheduled meeting 7 October in London. PRINCESS CUP WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT (Datro) Singles, that rounds R Hireld (Lapan) by Vestida (Japan) 84 8-1; Y Banaul (Inc) bt S Pittoreld (Pf. 7-5 7-6; T Banaugem (The) bt M Millows (Bu) 0-8 6-4 6-2; Al Sugyers (Japan) bt A Bihood (Aut) 6-3 6-2.

Footbali 7.30 unless state 

GROUP D GROUP E Bayern Munich v Beelikhs (7.45) ---Parls SG v IFK Gothenburg (7.45) ...

GROUP F
Bayer Leverlossen v Llerse (7.45) ...
Sporting Liebon v Morasco (7.45) ...
COCA-COLA CUP
SECOND ROUND FIRST LEG
Birnsingham v Stockport (7.45) ....
Bibackburt v Preston (8.6) ....
Grimsby v Sheffield Wed (7.45) .....
Lander Liebota (5.07.45) ..... NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PRST DIVISION Moraich v Charlton (7.45)...

Norwich v Charlton (7.45)

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINAL
Morton v Custen of the South
FA CUP First qualifying round replaya:
Bedington Terriers v Burscough; St Hailens
Town v Great Harmood Town: Correct v Lancaster Ctyl, Utbersmood Town (7.45).
Witney Town v Hoult Town (7.45). UNIBONUS LEAGUE Premier Division: Boston Utd v Hyde Utd. Piret Division: Brad-ford Park Avenue v Lincoln Utd; Fassley Cettic

V FIRED.

DR SMATTENS LEAGUE Premier Division:
St Leonards v Stringbourns.
Winstroke EAD KENT LEAGUE: Coninthian
V Swarley Rumess (745) League Cap: Snep-pey Utd v Crodentill.

His property by ESP. Columbia: League UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Twenton Town v Chard Town. NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Division: Stog Town v Hatfield Indiana. Shelling. JEWISON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Solven Town Rangers v Bury Town (749; Stownsried Town v Pelestows Port and TOWN (7/45).
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division; Seaham Red Star v NATIONWIDE IRISH GOLD CUP First PONTINS LEAGUE First Division: Man-

Rugby League REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Newy v BARLA Green British Under-21 (6:30) (at US

Utd (71); AYON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Di-vision: Luton v Crystal Palace (20); Warterd v Southempton (at Northwood).

SPECIAL VIANA

SELITE LEAGUE: Bradford V Eastbourne;
Kings lyrn v Coveriny (745); Poole v Belle Vue.
PREMIER LEAGUE: Hull v Edinburgh. CHALLENGE: Long Estion v Nothinghern Out-

JUNIOR WORLD CUP Finels: Peldsten v Royel (130): England v Japan (130); Argentina v Germany (40); Cuba v Australia (60) jet Ne-floral Stockern Miller Manach

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Cardif Dev-le v Bracknet Bees (70); Peterborough Prates v Sough Jate (730); Telford Tigers v Newcastle Cobras RV.

Other sports TENNIS: LTA Satellie (Hull).

# WEEKEND FIXTURES AND POOLS FORECAST

FA Carling Premiership 7 Tottenham v Bleckburn ... 8 West Hern v Newcastle...

Nationwide Football League First Division 10 Crewe v Queen's Park Rangers . 11 Ipswich v Stoke...... 

Playing Sunday: Charlion v Bradiord City

Second Division 21 Blackpool v Oldham... 22 Bristol City v Bourner 23 Burnley v Preston .. 24 Cartisle v Plymouth 25 Chasterfield v Bristol Re 28 Luton v Waschern . 29 Northempton v Wiger 30 Southend v Fulhern... 31 Walsal v York Playing Friday: Brentord v Wycomba Third Division

32 Barnet v Scunthorpe...... 33 Doncaster v Cambridge ... 34 Eister v Rotherhem ...... 35 Lincoln v Carditt ..... 

Bell's Scottish League **Premier Division** First Division Also playing (not on coupons); Second Di-vision: Clyde v Brechin, Clydebank v Sen-housemuk, East File v Livingston, Forter v Stramac, Cusen of the South v Inventess Cf. Taird Division: Alton v Aloy, Artronin v Dun-berson, East Briding v Morrigoe, Queené Piek v Coudenbeath, Flost Courty v Berwick. Five aways: Manchesier Lite, Que Rangers, Fultum, Rangers, Akrife.

# Woodward finally given the reins for England

of Wasps remain favourites.

mired at Bath,

the success going.

ceptive and positive.

he was tremendously skilful"

be interesting to see what

emerges in terms of team se-

lection and England's playing

style. He's always believed in the 15-man game. Clive's record

Meanwhile, the directors of

emergency session later today

to discuss the implications of

Sunday night's bar-room brawl

both clubs have been told to file

certainly speaks for itself.

Clive Woodward's appointment as England's new rugby coach finally won official approval yesterday. Chris Hewett sees the curtain come down on a longrunning sporting farce

More leaks than a John le Carre novel, more false starts than an Olympic 100 metre final. The bizarre kerfuffle surrounding the most important job in English rugby is over at last and, when the legion of players summoned to today's and it is up to Clive and his team opening training session of the season converge on Bisham Abbey, they will find Clive Woodward waiting to welcome

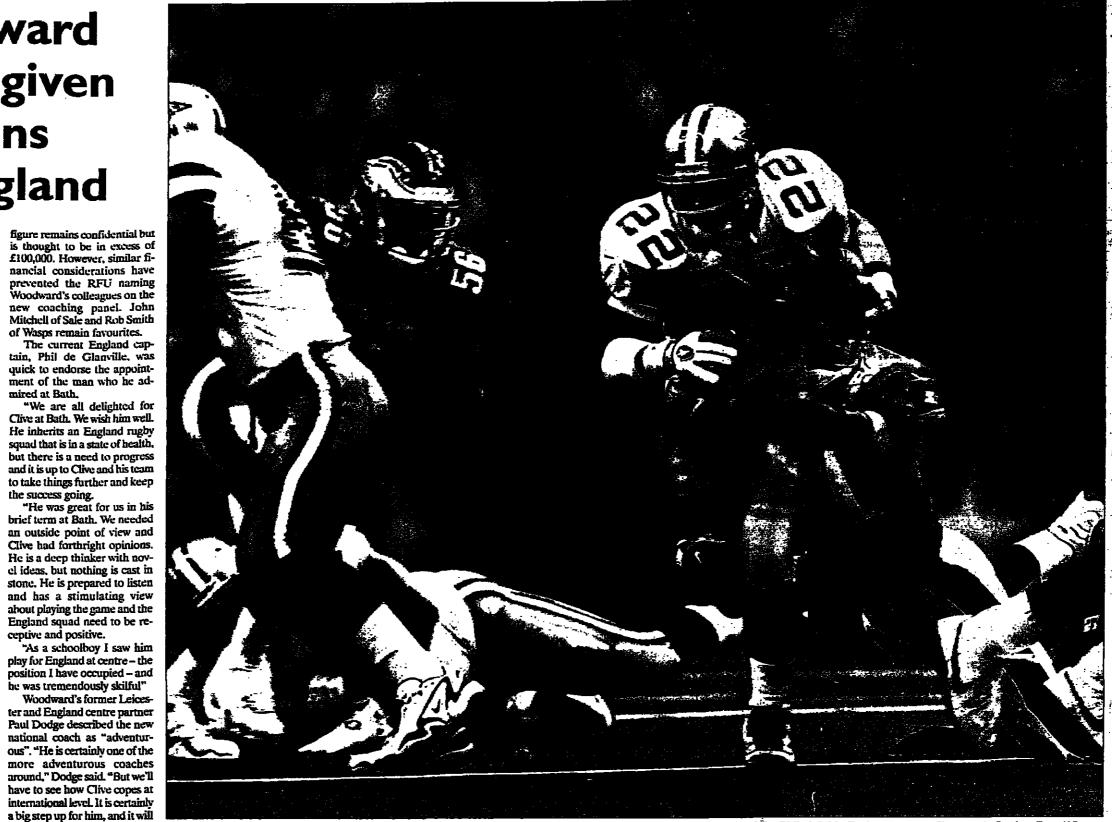
The worst-kept secret in top-level sport finally made it into the public domain yesterday afternoon when the Rugby Football Union confirmed the former Leicester, England and Lions centre as its first full-time ceach on a salary thought to be in the region of £150,000 a year. Roger Uttley will, as expected, manage the side. Both men have signed three-year contracts taking them up to and beyond the 1999 World Cup.

Having failed to lure Graham Henry, the successful Auckland coach, and Ian McGeechan, the mastermind of the Lions' triumph over the Springboks during the summer, the RFU turned to Woodward, only to find itself bogged down in protracted negotiations with his club, Bath. The contractual obstacles played have with the RFU's timescale - it had planned to finalise its appointments three weeks ago - and it was only on Monday night that the last lingering issucs were solved.

Woodward, who had initially insisted on honouring his Bath deal, said yesterday: "The between players from Brive chance of coaching England was one I just couldn't turn down. The support I've had from Bath has been superb." But the West Country club made it clear that they would have preferred to keep their man. "We're extremely disappointed to lose Clive's services," said Tony Swift, the chief executive, "We would not have released him for any other role."

Bath have been compensated for their inconvenience - the

AMERICAN FOOTBALL



Emmitt Smith, the Dallas Cowboys running back, powers on despite the close attentions of William Thomas, of the Philadelphia Eagles

Photograph: Stephen Dunn/Allsport

# Miller's leap and Hutton's fumble see Dallas through

the Heineken Cup will meet in Anthony Miller leaped to catch a 14-yard touchdown pass from Troy Aikman with 51 seconds left on Monday night as the Dallas Cowboys raffied from a two-touchdown deficit to a 21and Pontypried. Officials of 20 victory over the Philadelphia reports on the incident, which Eagles.

put three Frenchmen in hospi-Even then, the Eagles could have stolen the game with a 22-yard field goal, but they made a hash of it. Tom Hutton, tal and three Welshmen before a prosecuting magistrate. Brive's official request to have Saturday's match with holding for Chris Boniol, fum-Bath postponed will also be disbled the snap, tried to run with cussed. Bath have reacted anit, and was tackled by Deion grily and insisted that the feture Sanders in a bizarre finish.

Ty Detruer hit Freddie go ahead as scheduled. Solomon with a 46-yard pass to The ruthless Woodward way. the Dallas five-vard line with

four seconds to play. The Eagles, who had driven from their own 16 following Miller's touchdown, called their final timeout. It seemed Boniol, a former

Cowboy, could not miss, considering he had made 46 consecutive field goals from the 35-yard line or closer. The snap was perfect; the hold was not. Aikman, hounded all night

by a tough pass rush, took the Cowboys 62 yards in seven plays for the winning touchdown. A fourth-down pass interference call on Charles Dimry set Dallas up at the Philadelphia 45. Replays

the Eagles lineman Mike Mamula and that should have negated the call.

Then Aikman, who had been booed in the first half, connected with the tight end Eric Bjornson on a diving 24yard completion to the Philadelphia 17. Two plays later, Miller grabbed the ball away from safety Tim Watson in the back

of the end zone. The Eagles cornerback, Bob-Taylor, produced 10 points with blindside blitzes of Aikman that caused fumbles. Detmer threw a touchdown pass and Boniol kicked two field goals as the Eagles scented an upset.

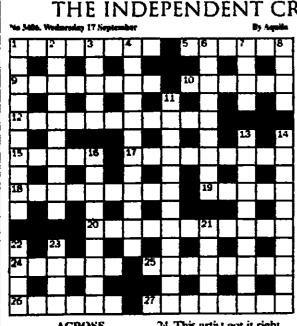
Dallas, who had rallied from into a 37-yard touchdown return a 17-3 deficit in the second quar-William Thomas. The Eagles led 17-6 at halfter, drove to the Philadelphia three-vard line late in the fourth quarter but Emmitt Smith was

time with the only offensive touchdown of the first 30 minutes coming when the rookie stopped on a third-and-four tight end Chad Lewis escaped play. Dallas had to settle for Richie Cunningham's fifth field for a 12-yard touchdown pass goal to cut the Eagles' lead to from Detmer with 9:31 left. Dallas biew a 15-point lead Ray Farmer recovered a

to Arizona last week and the Eagles upset Green Bay 10-9. The Dallas offensive lineman Larry Allen pulled a hamstring and the defensive lineman Chad Hennings a groin, with both

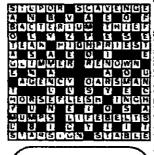
missing the second half. The cornerback Troy Vincent missed the second half for the Eagles with a shoulder injury.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- **ACROSS** Set off for school in
- time (8) 5 Book Three's about a
- Persian queen (o) 9 Girl originally plump contined to house (8)
- 10 Houses belonging to churchman's estates (6)
- 12 He is late in carrying dark, strong ale (5-6)
- 15 Helping mostly with correspondence (5)

  17 Worn-out spouse in
- deadkwk (9) 18 Oct update, perhaps, of dace revolution (4,5)
- 19 Old ascetic, a bit short, has to eat abroad (5) 20 Unusual Tehran mania for describing never-fad-ing bloomers? (11)
- 24 This artist got it right with a circle (6) 25 Rev up? (3-5)
- 26 Guard despatched by rail (6) 27 Stramed puddings must
- be sent back (8) DOWN Energy English cad used 14 Came up again with up in corrupt behaviour
- Nothing impetuous here, notwithstanding having hawk in support
- Musical ensemble in which all fasted, we hear
  - Christie's work at Prometheus Unbound?



Deep breath? (3-6) Army entertainer? (4) Remainder of holiday

11 The case for arms limitation (12) 13 Port of real smiles all

over the place (10) harness fitted with airholes (10)

16 Mr. Quelch was such a good painter? (3,6) Shelter of red skins. say? Not necessarily (5)

22 Long time is grand in sea-trip (4) 23 Twelve in Japanese drama currently being staged (4)

#### FOOTBALL

showed the ball was tipped by

# Dortmund feel the heat

The reigning champions of Europe, Borussia Dortmund, face a daunting trip to Turkey as they start the defence of their crown. Transfers, injuries and suspensions have weakened the Germans, who are feeling the weight of expectation. Tommy Staniforth reports

Borussia Dortmund travel to Galatasaray in their opening Champions' League match today without the two players who scored the goals that won them the European Cup last May. Karlheinz Riedle is now at

Liverpool and Lars Ricken is suspended, but the biggest headache for the new coach. Nevio Scala, may be the absence of Matthias Sammer, the international defender who plays such an important part in the Dortmund gameplan.

Scala's problems do not end there, however, as Stefan Reuter and Andreas Möller are also injured, while Paulo Sousa is susside missing it is little wonder teams joining them.

that Dortmund have not made the best start to the Bundesliga. Sixth after six matches is not the form of European champions and the pressure of expectation is clearly starting to tell. But Ottmar Hitzfeld, the man who coached the club to

put their task this season into some perspective. "We are among the favourites because we won the Cup last season, but we don't have the history and the experience of success that clubs like

victory over Juventus in May be-

fore becoming the club's di-

Real Madrid, Juventus or Barcelona have. To win a competition like the Champions' League, you need consistency and you need to be able to rely on your best players. At the moment, we can't but it's only starting." he said. While the European Cup has

never been easy to win, this season it will be more difficult than ever with a competition expanded to 24 clubs and including some of last season's runners-up. Only the six group winners are guaranteed a place in the quarter-finals next spring. pended. With the core of the with the best two second-placed

Galatasaray's Romanian midfielder Gheorghe Hagi is in no doubt that Dortmand are fallible and believes the Turkish champions can win. "We are in a difficult group, but we really want to get through to the quarter-finals and we have the power to achieve that," Hagi said.

20-15 with 5min 28sec left.

fumble by Aikman on one of the

hits at the Dallas 45, setting up

Boniol's 49-yard field goal. Bo-

niol hit a 44-yard field goai ear-

ly in the fourth period for a 20-9

lead. Taylor struck again in the

first quarter, only this time the

Eagles cashed Aikman's fumble

But Galatasaray are not rector of sport, is keen to try to without their problems as the team's trio of Romanian international midfielders will be broken up by the absence of Iulian Filipescu, carried off with a calf injury during a 2-1 win over lowly Antalyaspor at the weekend. Indeed, the Istanbul side has not had the best start to the season, languishing in - for them - a lowly fifth position and losing out 3-1 to arch cross-town rivals Fenerbahce last week

As always, though, Galatasaray will be relying on the infamous atmosphere of their Ali Sami Yen stadium which worked in intimidating teams such as Manchester United and Paris St-Germain.

They will be very intense atmosphere for the Dortmund game, but we will really need the backing of our supporters. With their help we'll bring a smile to Turkey," said Galatasaray's top goal scorer, Hakan Sükür.

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Art, hype and Tom Lubboc new RA show TODAY'S N Unionists joil The Northern Iroland power important few paces for war d Uster Unionst leader 17 to a collegues into Scormon (\* 135)

INSIDET

Revelation

Tavener to

the abbey

Wet nuns an

that led

and their own gross action to the cohowever, is far from a process, live As he walked into the Market take place, he explanately first daracter' David McKitteric:

the Unionists are expendent to

to face next week, little and the major

pincer movement betty consisting

Landmine bar

More than 100 common recognitions aged 1 draft treaty indrates enmediately fiel to deby the barriage area of filed refused to sign. Trace . . . . about raming the treaty where !

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